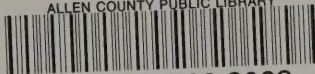


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A BOUNDARY MAP FOR
THE CITY OF NEWTOWN IN THE 150th
ANNIVERSARY OF NEWTOWN,
BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

1934

Published by Newtown in June 1934

HISTORIC NEWTOWN

BY

EDWARD R. BARNESLEY



§ A BOOKLET PREPARED FOR
THE CELEBRATION OF THE 250TH
ANNIVERSARY OF NEWTOWN,
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA



PUBLISHED AT NEWTOWN IN JUNE 1934

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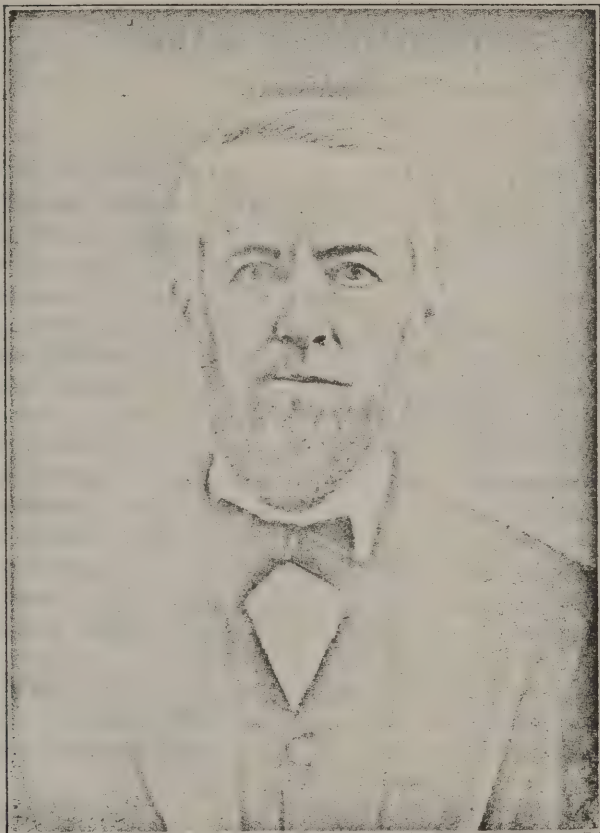
*Before anything is effected, we think it impossible, but when
it is done, we stare and wonder why it was not done before.*

FRANCIS BACON.

JOSIAH BETTS SMITH
The Historian of Newtown

Born February 13, 1899; Died March 23, 1964

Whose voluminous manuscript, now in the library of
the Bucks County Historical Society, has furnished
the greater part of the data contained in this booklet.



JOSIAH BETTS SMITH
The Historian of Newtown

Born February 13, 1809; Died March 29, 1888

Whose voluminous manuscript, now in the library of the Bucks County Historical Society, has furnished the greater part of the data contained in this booklet.

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HISTORIC NEWTOWN

Part I

1682-1726

Historic Newtown, Part I, 1682-1726

The first purchase from the Indians of land in Pennsylvania was on July 15, 1682, prior to the arrival of William Penn. The negotiations were made by Penn's kinsman and deputy, William Markham; and the purchase included all the land now contained within the townships of Bristol, Falls, Middletown, Newtown, Lower Makefield, and parts of Upper Makefield and of Wrightstown. This deed was the authority by which Penn granted his land clear of Indian encumbrances. All land titles in lower Bucks County are, therefore, traceable to the Royal Charter from Charles II on March 4, 1681; and to this Indian Deed,* which is reproduced herewith:

THIS INDENTURE, made the fifteenth day of July, in the yeare of or Lord, according to English Accompt, one Thousand Six Hundred Eightye Two, Between Idquahon, Ieanottowe, Idquoqueuon, Sahoppe for himselfe and Okonikon, Merkekowon Orecton for Nannacussey, Shaurwawghon, Swanpisse, Nahoossey, Tomakhickon, Westkekitt & Tohawsis, Indyan Sachamakers of ye one pte, And William Penn, Esqr., Chief Proprietor of the Province of Pennsylvania of the other pte: Witnesseth that for and in Consideracon of the sumes and particulers of Goods, merchandizes, and vtensills herein after mentioned and expressed, (That is to say), Three Hundred and fifty ffathams of Wampam, Twenty white Blankits, Twenty ffathams of Strawd waters, Sixty ffathams of Duffields, Twenty Kettles, ffower whereof large, Twenty Gunns, Twenty Coates, fforty Skirts, fforty payre of Stockings, fforty Howes, fforty Axes, Two Barrells of Powder, Two Hundred Barres of Lead, Two Hundred Knives, Two Hundred small Glasses, Twelve payre of Shooes, fforty Copper Boxes, fforty Tobacco Tonngs, Two small Barrells of Pipes, fforty payre of Sissers, fforty Combes, Twenty ffower pounds of Red Lead, one Hundred Aules, Two handfulls of ffish-hooks, Two handfulls of needles, fforty pounds of Shott, Tenne Bundles of Beads, Tenne small Saws, Twelve drawing knives, ffower anchors of Tobacco, Two anchors of Rumme, Two anchors of Syder, Two anchors of Beere, And Three Hundred Gilders, by the said William Penn, his Agents or Assigns, to the said Indyan Sachamakers, for the use of them and their People, at and before Sealeing and delivery hereof in hand paid and delivered, whereof and wherewith they the said Sachemakers doe hereby acknowledge themselves fully sat'sfyed, Contented and paid. The said Indyan Sachamakers, (parties to these presents,) As well for and on the behalfe of themselves as for and on the behalfe of their Respective Indyan or People for whom they are concerned, Have Granted, Bargained, sold and delivered, And by these presents doe fully, clearley and absolutely Grant; bargayne, sell and deliver vnto the sayd William Penn, his Heirs and Assignes forever, All that or Those Tract or Tracts of Land lyeing and being in the Province of Pennsylvania aforesaid, Beginning at a certaine white oake in the Land now in the tenure of John Wood, and by him called the Gray

*Transcribed from Pennsylvania Archives, First Series, Vol. I, p. 47. The original document may be seen in the manuscript room of the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

Stones over against the ffalls of Dellaware River, And soe from thence up by the River side to a corner marked Spruce Tree with the letter P at the ffoot of a mountayne, And from the sayd corner marked Spruce Tree along by the Ledge or ffoot of the mountaines west north west to a Corner white oake, marked with the letter P, standing by the Indyan Path that leads to an Indyan Towne called Playwickey, and near the head of a Creek called Towsissinck, And from thence westward to the Creek called Neshammonys Creek, And along by the sayd Neshammonyes Creek unto the River Dellaware, alias Makeriskhickon; And soe bounded by the sayd mayne River to the sayd ffirst mentioned white oake in John Wood's Land; And all those Islands called or knowne by the severall names of Mattinick Island, Sepassincks Island, and Orecktons Island, lying or being in the sayd River Dellaware, Togeather alsoe will all and singular Isles, Islands, Rivers, Rivoletts, Creeks, Waters, Ponds, Lakes, Plaines, Hills, Mountaynes, Meadows, Marrishes, Swamps, Trees, Woods, Mynes, mineralls and Appurtennces whatsoever to the sayd Tract or Tracts of Land belonging or in any wise Apperteyning; And the reversion and reversions, Remaindr. and remaindrs. thereof, And all the Estate, Right, Tytle, Interest, vse, pperty, Clayme and demand whatsoever, as well of them the sayd Indyan Sackamakers (Ptyes to these presents) as of all and every other the Indyans Concerned therein or in any pte. or Pcel. thereof. TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Tract or Tracts of Land, Islands, and all and every other the sayd Granted premises, with their and every of their Appurtennces vnto the sayd William Penn, his Heirs and Assignes forever, To the only pper vse & behoofe of the sayd William Penn, his Heirs and Assignes, forevermore. And the sayd Indyan Sachamakers and their Heires and successors, and every of them, the sayd Tract or Tracts of Land, Islands, and all and every other the sayd Granted pmisses, with their and every of their Appurtennces unto the sayd William Penn, his Heirs and Assignes forever, against them the sayd Indyan Sachamakers, their Heirs and successors, and against all and every Indyan and Indyans and their Heires and successors, Clayming or to Clayme, any Right, Tytle or Estate, into or out of the sayd Granted pmisses, or any pte, or pcel, thereof, shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents; In witness whereof the said Prtyes. to these present Indentures Interchangeably have sett their hands and seales the day and yeare ffirst above written, 1682.

Sealed and Delivered in ye presence of

LASSE COCK,
PIEOWJICOM,
RICH. NOBLE,
THOS. REVELL.

The mark of
X
KOWYOCKHICKON,

The mark of
X
ATTOIREHAM,

Wm. MARKHAM,
Deputy Govr. to
Wm. PENN, Esqr.

The first map of Pennsylvania under the proprietorship of William Penn, published in 1681, shows the names of only two settlers in Bucks County.* In the Fall of 1682 there landed in Philadelphia, Capt. Thomas Holme, Penn's Surveyor General, who began immediately to make a new map showing the land owners of the Province. This work he completed four years later, and in the following year, 1687, the map was published in London. On it is sketched the Township of Newtown, with the pentagonal boundaries of the same essentially as they are today, two centuries and a half later. The plan as here exhibited† shows the townstead laid out near the center, with 16 irregular tracts of land radiating therefrom.

The Holme Map indicates the names of 15 patentees in the township; and one strip, unpatented, is simply marked "Governor's." According to this map of 1687 the patentees were:

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ELI. BRABER | 6. JOHN OTTER | 11. THOMAS ROULAND |
| 2. WM. BENNET | 7. RICHARD PRICE | 12. WM. SNEED |
| 3. ARTHUR COOK | 8. THOMAS REVELL | 13. CHRISTOPHER TAYLOR |
| 4. JONATHAN ELDRY | 9. BEN. ROBERTS | 14. ISRAEL TAYLOR |
| 5. ABRAHAM MARLEY | 10. JOHN ROULAND | 15. SHAD. WALLE |

On Sixth Month 7, 1684, Elizabeth Barber, widow of John Barber, received a warrant from William Penn for a 300-acre tract of land, which was surveyed to her on the 28th of the same month. Elizabeth then became the wife of Robert Webb, and a patent was issued to him for the said tract on October 1, 1691. On May 17, 1695, Robert Webb, of Philadelphia, and Elizabeth, his wife, conveyed this unseated tract to William Buckman for £30. William Buckman, who had come to the Province in the Welcome with William Penn, was the first settler on this property, and a portion of his land is still owned by his descendant, John Buckman, of Newtown.

On March 19 and 20, 1682, William Bennet, of Longford, parish of Hammondsworth, Middlesex, England, received from Penn a warrant to take up 1,000 acres of land in Pennsylvania. A year and a half later William and his wife Rebecca and his children, Rebecca, Ann, and Sarah sailed for Pennsylvania, where they arrived in Ninth Month, 1683. Another daughter, Elizabeth, who had arrived a month before her parents, became the first wife of Richard Lundy on March 26, 1684.

*One of the four known originals of the Thornton Map, formerly belonging to the late Col. Henry D. Paxson, was sold on May 23, 1934, for \$350.

†For a reproduction of this see Davis' *History of Bucks County*; 1st Ed., p. 82 or 2nd Ed., Vol. I, p. 48.

William Bennet died on First Month 9, 1684, and by his will dated August 9, 1683, (one of the earliest probated in Bucks County) his wife Rebecca was left sole executor, and each of his four daughters, 200 acres of land. However, sometime before 1702, Rebecca had married, secondly, Thomas Williams; his daughters Ann and Elizabeth had died without issue; his daughter Sarah had married Robert Edwards, of Burlington, a cooper; and his daughter Rebecca had married John Scholey, of Burlington, a farmer. On First Month 27, 1702, William Bennet's surviving heirs (Rebecca Williams, Sarah Edwards, and Rebecca Scholey) sold 440 acres of the 1,000-acre grant to Ezra Croasdale, who probably became the first settler on the property. This was the two 200-acre tracts, including the 10% "overplus" allowance, that had been devised by William Bennet to his daughters Sarah and Rebecca.

By a warrant dated December 15, 1701, the tract of 400 acres was laid out, together with a town lot of 40 acres joining the Common. And also, by another warrant dated Third Month 19, 1702, there was laid out 100 acres of vacant land adjoining the other; making 540 acres in all. This tract of 540 acres was, by request, patented on July 9, 1705 to Ezra Croasdale.

Ezra Croasdale, was a native of Yorkshire, England, and brought a certificate from the Friends' Meeting at Brighthouse, Yorkshire, dated First Month 29, 1683. He settled in Middletown township, where he married on Second Month 6, 1687, Ann Peacock, also a native of Yorkshire, who had come from Kirksdale in that county, in 1684. They were married at the house of Nicholas Waln under the direction of Neshaminy (Middletown) Monthly Meeting. Ezra died on Fourth Month 18, 1740, and his wife on Tenth Month 8, 1732. They were the parents of four children:

1. Ezra Croasdale, Jr., born Twelfth Month 5, 1689; died Fourth Month, 1702.
2. William Croasdale, born Seventh Month 19, 1690; died Ninth Month 19, 1777.
3. Grace Croasdale, born Second Month 6, 1692.
4. Jeremiah Croasdale, born Eighth Month 29, 1694; died 1748.

Arthur Cook was a very prominent man in Bucks County, but is not known to have settled in Newtown township. In 1686, when he was County Surveyor, Cook was commissioned one of the three judges of the Provincial Court, and in 1690 was chosen again for the same position. On Eleventh Month 2, 1689/90 he was appointed Commissioner of Peace, and in 1692 was the Coroner of Bucks County.

Jonathan Eldridge owned a tract of land in Newtown township that was resurveyed by Cutler in 1702, under the name of James Eldridge, at which time the country lot was found to contain 262 acres, 3 roods, and 24 square perches. The town lot, contained 26 acres, 1 rood, and 34 square perches; in all 289 $\frac{1}{3}$ acres. Eldridge probably never lived on this tract.

No records have been found concerning Abraham Marley, and this name is believed to be a mistake, as deeds for the adjacent properties refer to this tract as belonging to Abraham Whorley. However, Whorley, who married Demaris Walley on Sixth Month 8, 1687, never had a real title to the land, or if he did it became forfeited, because the tract was patented to Mary Hayworth on Sixth Month 26, 1704. On the Twelfth Month 15th following, she became the wife of George Clough, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Pownall) Clough. On March 2, 1706, George and Mary (Hayworth) Clough conveyed the tract containing 278 acres to John Hough, Jr., who, five days later, sold it for £100 to Shadrach Walley, the first settler.* The Cloughs did not live in Newtown, but resided in Bristol township, where George was an elder in Falls Meeting for seventeen years until his decease on First Month 23, 1731. Mary died on Fifth Month 23, 1709.

John Otter was another Quaker resident of lower Bucks County, who did not live in Newtown township. He was county justice in 1683 and 1684, and the first meetings of Neshaminy (Middletown) Meeting were held at his house. His wife Elizabeth died on Eighth Month 11, 1685, and John married, secondly, Mary Blinston on Second Month 7, 1686.

The name of Richard Price as being an original purchaser in Newtown township is probably a mistake. The tract of land which is indicated on the Holme map as being his was patented to Israel Taylor on February 18, 1692, and sold to James Yeates, Sr. on February 14th of the following year. Yeates arrived at Philadelphia Seventh Month 17, 1684 as an indentured servant of Henry Baker. At the end of his five years with Baker, he continued to live with the latter along the Delaware, and probably never removed to Newtown. When John Cutler made his

*The survey described in this deed of March 7, 1706 (which is recorded in Dd. Bk. I, Vol. 1, p. 331), begins "At a white oak by the town common," then by various courses, "to a heap of stones by the said common thence by the same N. by E., 28 p. to the first place." This is the earliest mention of Newtown Common that the writer could find, but apparently it was well established by 1706.

return of resurvey of the tract of James Yeates, Sr. on Second Month 3, 1703, it was found to contain 295 acres. About 1705, James married Agnes ———, and in his will, dated December 31, 1730, he mentioned seven children: Joseph, James, Peter, Sarah, Agnes, Isabella and Margaret. On June 24, 1736, John Penn granted an additional 20 acres to widow Agnes Yeates.

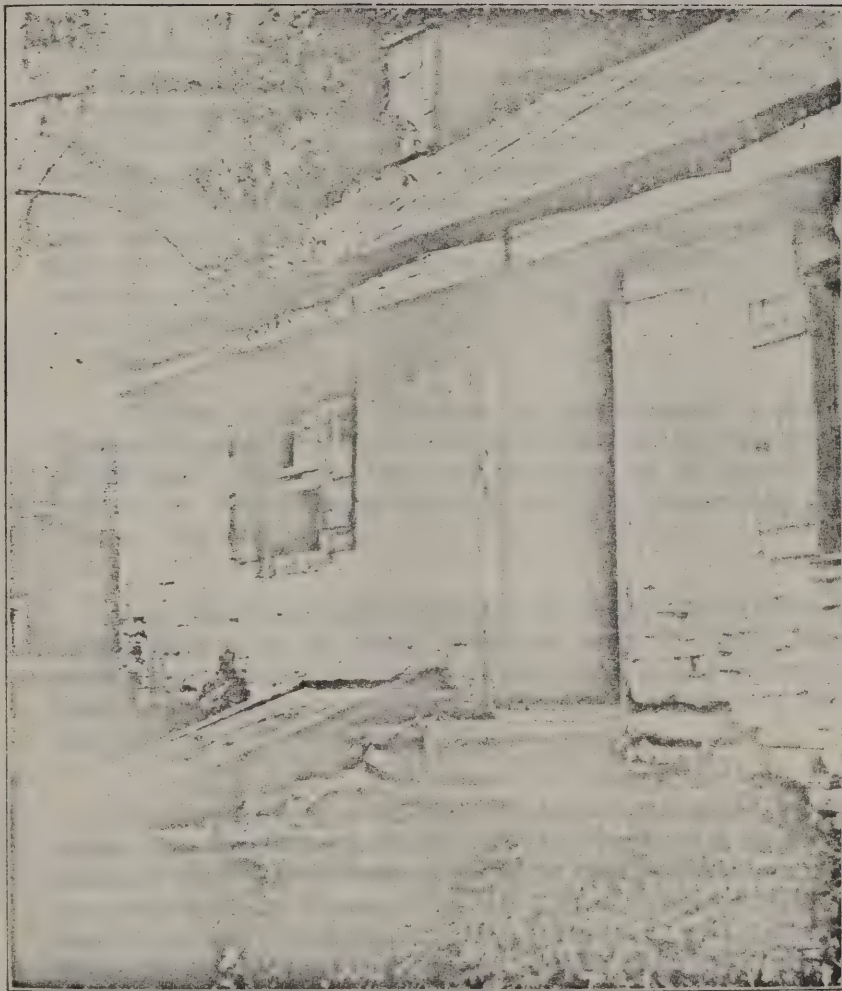
James Yeates, Jr. married Rachel Rutledge, the daughter of John Rutledge, on Ninth Month 7, 1727. In October 1729, James bought 70½ acres from his father. There was some difficulty about the marriage which took place at Wrightstown Meeting, because, according to the records, he passed meeting the first time before he had been received into full membership. The name of James Yeates, Jr., is well known in the annals of Pennsylvania History as being one of the participants, along with Edward Marshall and Solomon Jennings, of the infamous Indian Walk of September 19 and 20, 1737. Apparently this walk was too strenuous for James, as his death occurred on the day following.

There seems to be considerable doubt as to the residence of this James Yeates. Some say that it was in the old part of the stone house now belonging to George W. Brown at No. 236 south State Street. Silas C. Bond, who owned the property for many years, built a considerable addition to this house; he found the date 1719 carved on the old doors, and also cut on a stone in the kitchen end. It is on the basis of these dates that historians claim this house to be the oldest standing building in Newtown, [the next oldest building is the Bird in Hand which may have been built as early as 1726].

Another "home" of James Yeates, Jr. is reputed to have been in the little stone house at the first hollow below Newtown. This quaint little building was razed in 1897, and the frame house now the residence of J. Norman Vanartsdalen, No. 258 South State Street, was constructed on the site.

The third place where James Yeates, Jr. is supposed to have lived is on the farm now owned by Lewis P. Satterthwaite at the second hollow below Newtown. In 1743, Samuel Cary built a new house against the old Yeates building, and had inscribed on the date stone "Retirement" the name he had given his farm after he had retired from the store business. Also on the date stone were the letters $\begin{smallmatrix} S & S \\ & C \end{smallmatrix}$ which were, of course, his initials and those of his wife Sarah.

Thomas Revell was one of the more or less conspicuous figures in the early Quaker history of Bucks County, but it is unknown whether he lived in Newtown township or elsewhere.



Original negative owned by W. J. Pownall.

OLD STONE HOUSE

(Notice millstone threshold)

May have been the home of James Yeates, Jr., who walked the Indian Purchase of 1737; Standing until 1897 at No. 258 South State Street

He was one of the witnesses to the Indian deed of July 15, 1682. The tract on the Holme Map which he is shown as owning was originally warranted to Thomas Lovett. Eventually, it passed into the possession of Michael Hough, who became one of the first settlers in Newtown.

Michael Hough, of Newtown township, married Jane Russell, the daughter of Francis Russell, merchant, of Philadelphia. After the death of Michael on Fifth Month 22, 1687, Jane married, secondly, Thomas Brock. In the will of Michael Hough, dated Fourth Month 3, 1685, and witnessed by John Otter, he mentions one daughter, Mary. On Sixth Month 26, 1687, his estate was inventoried, and the "250 acres of land lying near New Towne" was valued at £15; "1 acre of land lying near ye Ferry," 2£, 10 sh., 1 d.; and a "servant maide," £8.

William Penn on October 18, 1683 issued a warrant to Thomas Rogers for a tract of land, which, on the 25th of the same month and year was laid out in favor of Benjamin Roberts. Roberts on Ninth Month 11, 1695 sold the property to Shadrach Walley, the first settler.

John Rowland and Priscilla, his wife, came from Billinghurst, Sussex, in the ship *Welcome* with William Penn. He owned many acres in Bucks County, but is not known to have lived in Newtown township. John was a Justice of the Peace and held several important offices.

Thomas Rowland, brother of John, also came in the *Welcome*. On Twelfth Month 12, 1684 he received a warrant of 500 acres of land which was surveyed to him in Newtown township and patented on Fourth Month 1, 1685. Thomas died in 1708, and the property was inherited by his brother and only heir John, who conveyed it on Tenth Month 8, 1690, to Henry Baker for £70. On Seventh Month 1, 1697, Henry Baker sold the unseated tract to Stephen Wilson, carpenter, of Burlington. N. J. The tract, which consisted then of 252 acres was purchased by Stephen Twining on Twelfth Month 17, 1698 for £80.

No record could be found of William Sneed having been an original purchaser of land in Newtown township.

Christopher Taylor, of Yorkshire, England, was a fine classical scholar, and a preacher among the Puritans until 1652,

when he joined the Friends, and suffered much from persecution. He was of great assistance to William Penn, and he and his brother Thomas wrote much in defense of Friends in England. Christopher arrived in the Province in 1682, and was a member of the first Assembly that met at Chester in December of that year. He was one of the 13 to sign Penn's Frame of Government on April 25, 1682, and was the first Register General of Pennsylvania. He settled in Bristol, but took up a tract of 500 acres in Newtown township. Christopher died in 1696, leaving two sons, Joseph and Israel, and one daughter, who married John Buzby.

In 1689, Israel Taylor, son of Christopher Taylor, located 200 acres of land in Newtown township. Israel was appointed sheriff of Bucks County on April 29, 1693, but resigned on the July 30th following, after being required to publicly execute Derrick Johnson, alias Clauson, at Tyburn, Falls township. This was the first hanging in Bucks County, and perhaps the first in Pennsylvania. Israel never lived in Newtown, since he sold his land the same year to John Coat, who became the first actual resident thereon. On Twelfth Month 3, 1686, when Coat presented to Middletown Meeting his certificate he had brought from England, he gave his residence as New-Town. In 1699, Samuel Coat, the son of said John, inherited the tract and three years later sold it to Shadrach Walley.

Shadrach Walley might aptly be called the "Father of Newtown." He received 250 acres from William Penn on March 22, 1681, eighteen days after the execution of the grant from King Charles II. The warranty recited in this deed, which is in the archives of the Bucks County Historical Society, protected the purchaser "from all manner of Titles, Claymes of any Indian or Native of the said Tract or province." It is to be noted that this was sixteen months before Penn's agents actually purchased the land from the Indians.

Shadrach was probably a brother of Damaris Walley who witnessed the marriage of Richard Hough and Margery Clows on First Month 17, 1683/4. On Sixth Month 8, 1687, at Middletown Meeting, Damaris became the wife of Abraham Wharley. Naomi Walley may have been another sister. She came to Bucks County in 1684, a "single woman," bringing a certificate from Frandly Meeting, Cheshire, and, on September 9, 1686, married at Pennsbury, William Berry, of Kent County, Md.

On First Month 12, 1688, under the care of Middletown Meeting, Shadrach married Mary Sharp, who predeceased him. A

copy of the certificate says the marriage took place "at the House of said Shadrach Walley at New Town, county aforesaid." They became the parents of two children: John, who was born Tenth Month 18, 1689; and Hananiah, who was born Twelfth Month 22, 1690. Hananiah or Ananias, which is another form of the same name, died young and without issue. Shadrach died intestate, leaving 1,518 acres of land in Newtown township. His second wife, named Sarah, died in 1732. By her will dated August 28th of that year, Sarah devised her estate to her stepson, John Walley, and his children.

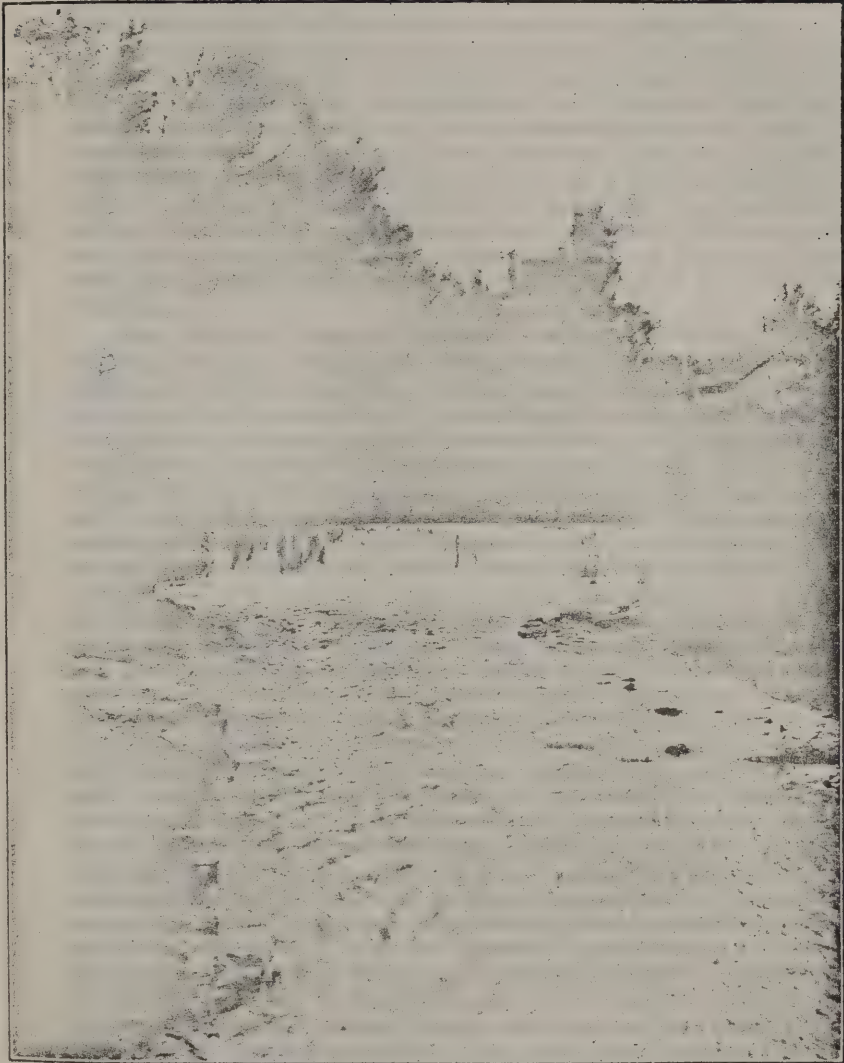
John Walley, the only surviving heir of Shadrach and Mary (Sharp) Walley, married Elizabeth Hough, who was related to John Hough of Middletown township, and probably to Richard Hough of Makefield township. Elizabeth was a sister of Samuel Hough of Newtown township, who owned, according to the Cutler resurvey of 1703, a 732-acre tract next to Michael Hough. Samuel came to Bucks County in 1683 with Richard Hough, Margery Clows, and her father John Clows, as an indentured servant of the latter. According to the contract, Samuel was to be free on July 29, 1687, and have 50 acres of land.

John and Elizabeth (Hough) Walley had four children: Joseph, John, Jr., Ananias, and Damaris. Ananias, like his uncle of the same name, died without issue; and Damaris married John Roney, but also died childless. After the death of John, his widow became the second wife of Nicholas Hellings, but they had no children. Nicholas died in 1745, and she was again left a widow. Elizabeth's will, probated December 10, 1749, shows that she lived in Newtown.

The following deeds pertain to Newtown Common and are self explanatory:

This indenture made the Twentieth day of December in the first year of the reign of King George the Second over Great Britain, etc., A. D. 1727, WITNESSETH. That William Penn proprietor and governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, etc., did, for the regular settling of this, the sd province Prudently contrive the form of many towns, one of which is our town of Newtown, situate on each side of a pleasant stream of water, near which it is so ordered and contrived that each of our lots fronteth the banks of the sd. stream; but as it often happens such streams runneth crooked and varies from a straight and regular course, therefore there was surveyed and laid out a certain small parcel or strip of land.

Beginning at the southermost side or corner of the sd lot and extending on each side of the stream by straight lines up the same to the northermost corner of the sd lots, excluding the sd. brook, in order that the same might accommodate with water as well the lots on the east side as those on the west and be free and common to all. But as it often happeneth in new settled countries good projections miscarry for want



Photograph by W. E. Randall.

NEWTOWN CREEK

View Looking North from the Center Avenue Bridge

of being carefully prosecuted and managed until they be completed; and generally some persons having more regard to private views than to public good endeavor to secure to themselves a greater share of the public and common interest than belongs to them which has been the case with on account of the said water course and piece of land.

Being considered by the inhabitants several years bygone and debating the same thought the said premises wanted some further confirmation by the proprietor's commissioners and therefore agreeing that certain of them should go to the commissioners and treat with them about the same who accordingly went and agreed with them and obtained a warrant to resurvey the sd piece of land and stream of water agreeing to give in consideration thereof a sum of money but it so happened that before the sd sum of money was collected and paid or the said affairs were by them completed they died since which it laid in disorder and the said piece of land grown over with encumbrances to our great inconvenience.

Now know ye, that we, Stephen Twining, John Walley, Nathaniel Twining, William Buckman, Joseph Lupton, John Twining, Thomas Buckman, John Carter, Henry Nelson and Abraham Chapman being inhabitants and purchasers of lands belonging to the said Township of Newtown aforesaid, we hereby do covenant, order and agree and conclude that Stephen Twining, William Buckman, John Twining and John Carter or any two of them shall and may undertake the affair concerning the said piece of land and stream of water and prosecute the same with all convenient speed and perfect the same and shall and may collect all such sum or sums of money that may be needful for the negotiating or managing the sd affair, as well to pay the said commissioners as to pay for surveying and their own expense during their services thereon jointly out of each our equal part or share which we and every of us do covenant and promise and agree in behalf of ourselves and every of us in particular our heirs, executors, administrators and every of them, to pay the said Stephen Twining, William Buckman, John Twining and John Carter or to their order and it is likewise covenanted, agreed upon and ordered that within twenty days after the said Stephen Twining, William Buckman, John Twining and John Carter having settled the said affairs to them above directed with the proprietary commissioner they shall summon us and every of us, our heirs and assigns to meet at some particular time and place in Newtown aforesaid but as they neglect to summon as aforesaid then it shall and may be lawful for any three of us to summon every of us to meet as above in order to concert methods regularly to appropriate the said piece of land and stream of water equally to each of us our heirs and assigns in such order as may best answer to the advantage of our lots and land in particular and to the public in general, and to lay out such ways or streets through the same, so that each of us may conveniently have the advantage of the water and that the land may be brought to be of some use and improvement and as may be devised and agreed upon by us who so met together or by the major part of us so meeting and agreed upon which agreement shall be binding upon us our heirs and assigns forever, which shall be entered down in writing and put upon record, and these presents at the expense of us equally to be paid, and we do hereby also covenant and agree that if there be any other person or persons who hath now lot or lots adjoining to the piece of land and not here present or joining in this agreement if they do make their right appear within three months next ensuing the date hereof and pay his or their part or parts of all such sum or sums of money

which hath been disbursed about the said land he or they may enjoy his or their rights and privileges proportionately with each of us, who now agree and subscribe, otherwise not.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands thereunto the day and year above written.

THOMAS BUCKMAN	HENRY NELSON
WILLIAM BUCKMAN	JOHN TWINING
JOHN CARTER	NATHANIEL TWINING
ABRAHAM CHAPMAN	STEPHEN TWINING
JOSEPH LUPTON	JOHN WALLEY

Whereas, Shadrach Walley, William Buckman and John Frost of the Township of Newtown in the County of Bucks and State of Pennsylvania, did obtain a warrant from the Commissioners of properties, Richard Hill, Isaac Norris and James Logan dated the Sixth of Sixth month 1716 for a strip of vacant land lying on a branch of Neshaminy Creek (now known by the name of Newtown Common) thence supposed to contain about 30 acres which was surveyed and returned into the general Surveyor's office as appears from the survey dated the twentieth of Sixth month in the year aforesaid and whereas the said Shadrach Walley, William Buckman and John Frost died without having first obtained a full and sufficient title for the said strip of land as described in survey above mentioned.

Now be it known, that the inhabitants of Newtown Township in the County and State aforesaid considering the useless and unproductive state in which the said strip of land or common now lies, and desirous that the same might be converted to a useful and general purpose do depute and appoint William Buckman, Francis Murray, James Hanna, Thomas Story, William Linton, and John Dormer Murray, jointly to obtain by such means as shall appear most proper a deed or title in trust for the said strip of land or common butted, bounded as mentioned in the aforesaid survey and we do hereby nominate and appoint William Buckman, Francis Murray, James Hanna, Thomas Story, William Linton and John Dormer Murray our trustees to receive a deed or title for the said strip of land or common to themselves and successors forever in trust and for the uses and purposes hereafter specified and declared that is to say the said trustees shall sell or lease the said strip of land or common as shall to them seem best and the proceeds or profits therefrom shall be divided into three equal parts, shares or portions. One third of which to be applied by the trustees aforesaid for the benefit and behoof of the academy and free school now established in Newtown, which said academy is to receive and teach gratis all such poor scholars as may offer. One third to the township for the benefit and behoof of a school or schools which may be established in said township exclusive of the townstead.

The remaining third for the benefit and behoof of the townstead in such manner and for such purposes as a majority of said trustees may direct. And it is hereby further agreed by the inhabitants of the township aforesaid that upon a vacancy happening in the said body of trustees by death, resignation or otherwise it shall and may be lawful for the surviving trustee to fill such vacancy by election among themselves under the proviso, however, that no person can be elected or exe-

cute the said trust unless he be a freeholder and reside within the district which the vacancy represents; that is to say, if the vacancy happens in one of the three representing the townstead in such case the person elected to reside in the townstead, and so of the township which trustee being chosen and certified by the judges of the election to the Board of Trustees shall take his seat among them and enjoy equal powers with them. The said trustee to keep books and make regular entries of their proceedings which shall always remain open and free for the inspection of the inhabitants of said township.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we the inhabitants of said township do hereby set our hands this April one, 1796.

DAVID BARTRON	JOHN LINTON
JAMES BINDER	WILLIAM LOGAN
LEVI BOND	
JAMES BOYD	WILLIAM MARTINDELL
JOSEPH BRIGGS	ARCHIBALD MCCORKEL, JR.
PHINEAS BRIGGS	ANDREW MCMINN
THOMAS BRIGGS	ALEXANDER MOORE
ABEDON BUCKMAN	
ISAAC BUCKMAN	JOHN PETAN
JACOB BUCKMAN	AARON PHILLIPS
JESSE BUCKMAN	
JOHN BUCKMAN	ANDREW QUINTIN
JOSEPH BUCKMAN	
JOSEPH BUCKMAN, JR.	JAMES RAUGUET
THOMAS BUCKMAN	ISAAC RYAN
THOMAS BULGER	
	MOSES SMITH
JOHN CAVENDER	JOHN SMOCK
ABRAHAM CHAPMAN	DAVID STORY
	JOSEPH STRADLING
WILLIAM EGAN	
	JOSEPH THORNTON, JR.
JOSIAH FERGUSON	JOHN TORBERT
	SAMUEL TORBERT
JOSEPH HARVEY	JOSEPH TAYLOR
DAVID HESTON	PETER TAYLOR
ISAAC HICKS	WILLIAM TAYLOR
AMOS HILLBORN	JACOB TWINING
ROBERT HILLBORN	STEPHEN TWINING
THOMAS HILLBORN	
	HENRY VANHORN
JACOB JANNEY	
JOHN JOHNSON	CHRISTIAN WERTZ
JOHN JOHNSON, JR.	NICHOLAS WYNKOOP
MOSES KELLY	SAMUEL YARDLEY
JOHN KINSEY	THOMAS YARDLEY

27-28

HISTORIC NEWTOWN

Part II

1726-1775

Historic Newtown, Part II, 1726-1775

On March 24, 1724, in the 11th year of the Reign of King George I, the General Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania passed an Act:

To enable Jeremiah Langhorne, William Biles, Joseph Kirkbride, Jr., Thomas Watson, practitioner in physic, and Mahlon Chapman, or any three of them, to purchase and take an assurance to them and their heirs of a piece of ground situated in some convenient place in Newtown, in the county of Bucks, aforesaid, in trust, for the use of the said county, and to erect a court house and prison thereon sufficient to accommodate the public service of the said county.

On July 17, 1725 these trustees, in pursuance of the above act, purchased a tract of 5 acres from John Walley, the only son and heir of Shadrach Walley. This lot was located on the east side of State Street, between Penn Street on the south, and an alley on the north at about the property line between Horace A. Effrig's and Edward Grace's stores; the eastern boundary of the lot was an alley east of Court Street, the lower third of which is still in use. The ground was laid out into 6 equal squares; divided into halves by Court Street; and into thirds by Centre Avenue and Mercer Street. Each of these 6 equal lots was 190 by 142½ feet.

The last Court at Bristol was held on March 17th, and the first at Newtown was commenced on June 16, 1726.

In 1746, after the death of Jeremiah Langhorne, William Biles, and Dr. Thomas Watson, the Assembly passed another act appointing in their places Mark Watson, Mahlon Kirkbride, and John Watson, Jr., of Buckingham.

Court House Lot No. 2 was probably the first one sold by the Trustees. This was at the northeast corner of State and Mercer Streets, and George Welch, innholder, was the purchaser. In 1728 Welch gave a mortgage of £120 to Henry Nelson and William Brelsford. What is now known as the Bird in Hand is believed to have been built by George Welch sometime between 1726 and 1728, following the erection of the county buildings. During the Revolution this house was called the Old Frame House, or named after the proprietor of the tavern. It had innumerable owners to the time of John Torbert, who rented it to Jacob Kessler as early as 1800, when the Newtown Post Office was established in the building. In 1806, the inn was known as Kessler's Tavern.

In 1812 the Old Frame House was sold at sheriff's sale as the property of John Torbert, deceased, to David Johnson and

Joseph C. Whitall. The latter bought out the former's interest the following year, and failed himself in 1817. That year, Whitall's assignees sold the property to Tamar (Worstall) Cary, the wife of Asa Cary,* whom she had married the previous year. They had their neighbor Edward Hicks, paint a sign picturing Franklin's adage, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush," and since their time the building has been known as the Bird in Hand, although it has not been used as a tavern for over 75 years. After Asa's death Tamar continued the hotel for several years. She died in 1842, and is buried in the Presbyterian Graveyard.

During the temperance epidemic which swept over Bucks County in the 1840's, the Bird in Hand became one of three temperance hotels established in Newtown. The following article about the conversion of the Bird in Hand was signed by "The Man About Town," and is taken from the *Newtown Journal and Workingmen's Advocate* of August 8, 1843:

THE "OLD BIRD IN HAND TAVERN"

No Citizen of the Borough, was more pleased some five months ago, than I, when it was announced that the "Old Bird in hand tavern" which had so long, been the Kennel and Sty, for Three cent Topers, was about to be changed into a "Temperance Hotel" upon the tee total principle. And I was delighted that my brethren in the temperance cause were about to take the matter in hand, and give their aid in establishing a public house upon the "cold water" plan, to be kept by a Reformed man and Worthy Citizen.

It has now been some months since the house was opened, and has been supplied, I firmly believe, by no other than strictly temperance drinks—and I will now ask of my temperance brethren, How and by Whom has it been patronised? When it was the miserable "KENNEL" above alluded to, you could see the poor wretches GO TO and DEPART FROM it, and in a praiseworthy manner rejoice that it was soon to be a nuisance NO LONGER. It has now ceased to be a NUISANCE: but many of you within its reach to accommodate, have not thought as yet, to patronise it by expending ONE cent therein. Now my fellow laborers in the great and good cause of moral reform, ONE WORD if you please, and may it have a tendency to let you "see yourselves, as others see you." We (the temperance men) are much in the habit of calling TAVERN KEEPERS "BEGGAR AND PAUPER MAKERS," (and with much truth,) who will take from the poor intemperate wretch, his last penny. We have said we will not slacken our efforts, while there yet remains a licensed tavern within the limits of our State—and that we will give our whole undivided influence to establish houses in which ardent spirits shall not be tasted, nor sought after. But brethren to do this, we must each of us be willing to put our "shoulder to the wheel," and CALL and SPEND a trifle at the houses we claim as OURS or they cannot succeed, and we may perchance be the means of making "beggars and paupers" of those we have induced to become PUBLIC SERVANTS.

And I do most sincerely wish that such of my temperance brethren, as are in the habit of visiting OUR BOROUGH FOR HOURS

*He was the son of Samuel Cary, and according to the tax return of 1782, was a tailor by trade. Asa's first marriage was to Agnes Ashburn on December 8, 1773 (Marriage Docket of Squire Isaac Hicks).

TOGETHER to think of THIS MATTER, when they are in the ACT OF HITCHING THEIR HORSES TO THE POSTS OF PRIVATE DWELLINGS, lest they make our worthy friend CHILEON, what we accuse the RUM SELLER OF making HIS VICTIM A POOR PENNY-LESS "PAUPER."

"SOME LOVE TO ROAM"

*Some love to tell
How the Drunkard fell—
Yet the TEE TOTAL PLEDGE set him FREE,
But I tell you what
That a REFORMED sot
Is a "CRITTUR" I seldom see.*

The upper half of Court House Lot No. 5 at the southeast corner of Court Street and Centre Avenue was purchased by Joseph Thornton, Sr. in 1733. Thornton built, probably in that year, a tavern which was known as Thornton's Tavern until the death of his widow in 1792. Joseph Thornton, Sr., was a Quaker, but his wife apparently was not. They were both witnesses to the will of James Yeates, Sr., and when the will was probated, Joseph affirmed the signature while Margaret qualified it with her "corporeal oath on the Holy Evangelists." Joseph died in 1755; the father of two children: Joseph, Jr. and John. Joseph Thornton, Jr., the older son, was appointed* Sheriff of Bucks county on October 4, 1759, and reappointed for the yearly term on October 3, 1760, and on October 5, 1761. John Thornton, the younger son, had three children: Joseph, John and Jesse.

Apparently the estate of Joseph Thornton, Sr. was insolvent, for in 1755 the Court Inn property was sold by William Yardley, sheriff. His widow bought in the property, and managed it until her death. In 1792, her executors sold the tavern to Josiah Ferguson, who conveyed it three years later to Francis Murray. General Murray rented the inn to John Torbert, innkeeper.† In 1805 Isaac Tucker, who had formerly kept a tavern in Kingessing township, Philadelphia county, and later at Chester, removed to Newtown, and rented Court Inn from General Murray. Tucker kept the place until March 30, 1807, having maintained it for only one year, but in that time had considerably depreciated the good name of the house. In fact, Josiah Smith says, "The tavern had become more of a place for drinking and loafing than it was for respectable company." Col. Elisha Wilkinson was landlord the following year, 1808. He was the last known proprietor of Court Inn. On April 2, 1818, Dr. Phineas Jenks, acting executor and trustee of Francis Murray, deceased, conveyed "the dwelling

*Pennsylvania Archives, Third Series, Vol. IX, pp. 231, 271, and 311.

†In 1803, Henry Dotterer ran the hotel; and in the following year Elisha Wilkinson rented it.

house formerly a tavern, and two lots of land and the stables thereon" to Joseph Briggs. Briggs, by his will dated September 13, 1855, devised the property to his daughters, Letitia and Francisca. They conveyed the house to George W. Cunningham, on April 8, 1865. In 1886, Fredericka M. Heyd purchased the property from the Cunninghams, and then by various conveyances it passed through the hands of Edward Lewis; George C. Worstall, George C. Blackfan, and Silas Cary; Melvina Mitchell; John B. Chambers; Franklin J. L. Bachart; the Standard Telephone and Telegraph Company; and finally in 1906 to Clayton Keller, the present owner.

The oldest institution in Newtown in continuous organization is the Presbyterian church, founded in 1734, and active in the community for two centuries. The first church building was a wooden structure located on the townstead boundary a half mile west of Newtown, at what is now the southeast corner of Green Lane and Swamp Road. The old graveyard attached to the church is still there, and a few of the quaint marble tombstones, which mark the final resting place of the founders of the community, remain in a most sorrowful condition. Ninety years ago Dr. Phineas Jenks was much concerned about the dilapidated state of this sacred ground, and his lecture to the Newtown Lyceum on the subject was printed in the *Newtown Journal and Workingmen's Advocate* of February 27, 1844, over his pseudonym "Olden Time." He began by saying:

In this spot, the mortal remains of many of the pioneers of the wilderness are deposited,—those early adventurers who came to the country and settled in this neighborhood, when all around them was one unbroken forest, when the war cry of the Leni Lenape or the howl of the wolf and the panther nightly assailed their ears. Voluntary exiles from the land of their birth, they cheerfully endured all the hardships and privations attendant upon the settlement of a new country inhabited by uncivilized men.

Jenks' remarks were, however, of no avail, and a quarter of a century later when Eleazer F. Church, editor of the *Newtown Enterprise*, visited the spot, the place was in worse condition. He wrote the following in his paper of May 21, 1868, [the poems of the epitaphs were transcribed by Church, but are not reprinted here]:

Many of the tombs of the "Rude forefathers of the hamlet" are there too, no doubt, leveled with the earth, and encroached upon by the plow. Even the graves of those who could afford a tombstone and an epitaph, are almost in the same condition, but a few of the stones are yet left. The storms and frosts have eaten into the marble—but a follower of "Old Mortality" can yet find out the names and trace the epitaphs. We rescue a few of them from the tooth of time, and the destruction of the elements:



Original negative owned by W. J. Pownall.

Formerly
COURT INN

Built about 1733 by Joseph Thornton, Sr., as a hotel, and conducted as such until about 1818. Now remodeled into a private dwelling

1. Here lyeth the body of Samuel Keith, who departed this life, September 21, 1748, aged 27 years.
2. Here lyeth the body of Thomas Martin, who departed this life, August 27, 1760, in the 52d year of his age.
3. Here lyeth the body of George Logan, who departed this life, the 3d of June, 1756, aged 60 years.*
4. Here lyeth the body of M. David Lawel,† who departed this life, July 5th, 1756, aged 50 years.
5. Here lyeth the body of James Cummings, who departed this life, the 25th of July, 1750, aged 39 years.

Since the above was written, the tombstone of Martin has been removed. The following three stones mentioned by Jenks had probably disappeared by 1868, because Church failed to rescue them from "the tooth of time":

6. Here lyeth the body of John Bell, who died in 1751, aged 41 years.‡
7. Here lyeth the body of James Curn, who died in 1750, aged 39 years.
8. Here lyeth the body of Sarah Cummings, who died in 1758, aged 34 years; and her infant son aged 6 months.

As William S. Tomlinson said in the *Newtown Enterprise* of April 26, 1934, these were men and women

*Who lived and labored, loved and died,
Some meek and humble, others full of pride;
But equally forgotten, now they sleep
Where men dump trash and brambles creep.*

Apparently, the Presbyterian Congregation has never taken any interest in their original church and graveyard property since they abandoned it in 1769, although this year marks their bi-centennial anniversary. At a congregational meeting held on October 16, 1913, it was resolved to dispose of this burdensome acre of ground, so on September 14th of the following year, the Trustees leased the same for 99 years to the adjoining property holder for the munificent sum of \$100 cash. Several stipulations were inserted in the lease; one of them being "nor shall he [the lessee] at any time sell or dispose or permit to be sold or disposed to any persons any vinous, spirituous or malt liquors on said premises."

However, no clause keeps cattle and swine off this hallowed ground, or prevents the ignorant from throwing old tin cans on the sacred although forgotten graves of many of the founders of Newtown. Today, in 1934, this place, like the Yardley Bury-

*On the same stone is the following, "Also the body of James Logan: son of the above, who departed this life the 14th of May, 1756. Aged about 30 years." [E.R.B.]

†His widow Sarah, born in 1709, died in Kentucky in 1800, married Charles Stewart, and they were the parents of five children, one of whom was Hannah (Stewart) Harris, hostess of George Washington. See Davis, 2nd ed., Vol. 1, p. 210.

‡It is possible that the small broken stone marked " . . . September the 17th, 175 . . . Aged 41 years . . ." is a fragment of John Bell's tombstone. There are more than a dozen unlettered field stone headstones remaining. [E.R.B.]

1686876



Negative owned by Mrs. W. J. Bone.
Photograph taken about 1860.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Erected in 1769 to replace a wooden structure, a half-mile to the west,
that was built in 1734*

ing Ground belonging to stately Falls Meeting, is a shameful disgrace to the community at large.

*Those only deserve to be remembered by posterity
Who treasure up the history of their ancestors.*

EDMUND BURKE.

The first regular pastor of the Presbyterian Congregation was Rev. Hugh Carlisle, who presided until 1838. He was succeeded the following year by Rev. Hugh Campbell, who, however, occupied the pulpit for only a few months. The church then continued without any regular pastor for a dozen years, until Rev. Henry Martin, a Princeton graduate, was called in 1752, and he remained in charge until his death in 1764. During the next 5 years the pulpit was filled by various supplies until 1769 when Rev. James Boyd became the settled pastor. It was due to his initiative that the brown-stone church was constructed. This building, beautifully located on the little ridge, at the west side of the Common, was erected in 1769 on a lot deeded to the congregation by John Harris two years previous. All the marriage records kept by the ministers prior to this date have been lost, and the baptism and death records earlier than 1771 have also become destroyed.

Apparently, the contributions for the erection of this church were raised by means of a Lottery, of which the following is a ticket for the same, dated 1761:

NEWTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LOTTERY

No. 104. This ticket entitles the bearer to such Prize as may be drawn against its number if demanded within six months after the drawing is finished, subject to such deduction as is mentioned in the scheme.

(signed) JNO. DENORMANDIE.

For some reason or other difficulty arose concerning the settlement of this lottery, so on March 21, 1772, the General Assembly passed an Act:

To enable the Commissioners therein named to settle the account of the managers of a lottery set up and drawn for repairing the meeting house, and building, or repairing the house for the residence of the minister of the Presbyterian congregation, at Newtown in the county of Bucks and to sue for, and collect such sums of money as remained due and unpaid on account of said lottery.

Although lotteries for churches and other organizations are no longer sanctioned by the good people of Newtown; nevertheless, the service they rendered is still supplied by strawberry festivals, bake sales, card parties, and similar money making schemes.

The Presbyterian Congregation of Newtown was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly passed March 12, 1783.

The Presbyterian Church as originally constructed had the entrance on the south side. The pulpit was in the center of the north side, and was reached by a high flight of steps; the pews had high backs; and the floor was of brick. Unfortunately, there have been many repairs made since its construction, alterations having taken place in 1818, 1838, 1842, 1850,* and 1857. There are at present nine cemeteries in Newtown borough and township, but the only one which contains the remains of any Revolutionary soldiers is the Presbyterian Graveyard. Here are buried 22 Patriots, two of whom also saw service in the Indian War. All of these graves have recently been marked by Bucks County Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS BURIED IN NEWTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CEMETERY

1. Dr. Reading Beatty; born Dec. 25, 1757; died Oct. 29, 1831.
2. William Bell; died June 20, 1780; aged 80 years.
3. Nathaniel Burrows; born Feb. 6, 1756; died July 10, 1811.
4. Thomas Gaine; died Jan. 12, 1820; aged 69 years.
5. Joseph Howell; died July 14, 1800; aged 71 years, 3 months & 11 days.
6. John Keith; died April 20, 1825 in his 73rd year.
7. Col. James McMasters; died Nov. 29, 1805; aged 73 years.
8. Gen. Francis Murray; died Nov. 5, 1816; aged 74 years.
9. Joseph Sackett, Jr.; died Nov. 24, 1822 in his 61st year.
10. William Simpson, Sr.; died May 15, 1794; aged 84 years & 4 months.
11. Abraham Slack; died Aug. 30, 1802; aged 72 years.
12. Cornelius Slack, Sr.; died Oct. 10, 1810; aged 68 years & 5 months.
13. James Slack; died Jan. 31, 1832 in his 76th year.
14. Thomas Smith; died Oct. 10, 1828; aged 74 years & 6 months.
15. Anthony Teate; died April 4, 1781; aged 71 years. (Indian War.)
16. Hugh Thompson; died Aug. 10, 1843 in his 83rd year.
17. John Thompson; died July 18, 1799; aged 71 years & 8 months. (Indian War.)
18. Robert Thompson; died Nov. 8, 1801; aged 82 years.
19. Col. Anthony Torbert; died April 4, 1829 in his 63rd year.
20. James Torbert; died Oct. 21, 1815; aged 85 years.
21. Mathias Wesner; died Oct. 31, 1799; aged 50 years, 8 months & 8 days.
22. John Wilson; died July 14, 1811; aged 69 years & 1 month.

Mr. Boyd was pastor of the church for nearly half a century, during which period it flourished greatly. He was in charge until his death in 1814; and a large marble slab supported by four stone pillars marks the place of his interment. On October 28, 1869, the congregation celebrated with a Centenary Jubilee, a hundred years of continuous service in their church building. Rev. Robert D. Morris, a former pastor, preached an historical sermon, giving many interesting facts in the church's history.

*"While repairing the church 20 yrs. ago, in digging a foundation, bones were discovered, which were supposed to be the remains of one of the prisoners who died there." This erroneous supposition is from S. Hersey's *Bucks County Directory and Gazetteer for 1871-2*.

This Jubilee was largely attended; an old account has the following to say about it:

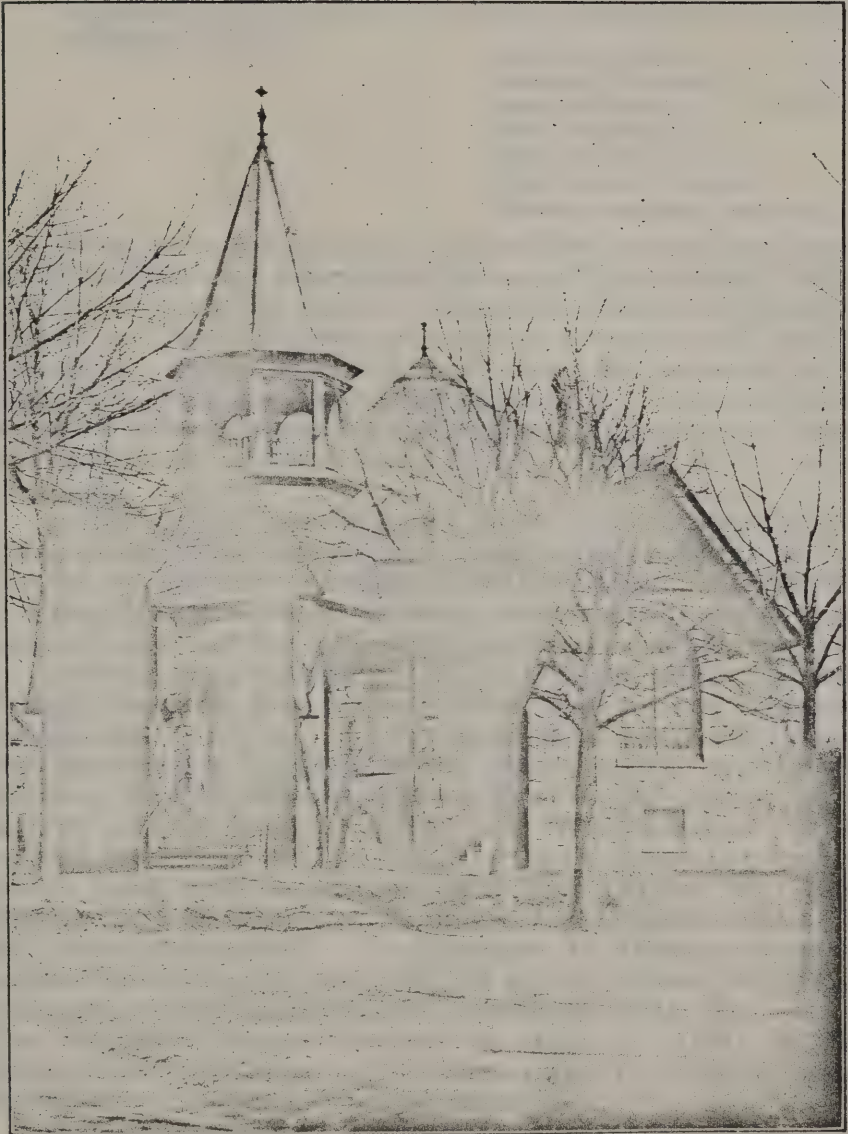
This was a grand, good day for Newtown, and as far as they could, scattered ones returned and kept the jubilee. Quakers who once passed on the opposite side of the street were present to share in the interest of the Presbyterian Centenary.

In 1886, the congregation erected a brown-stone chapel at the northeast corner of Washington Avenue and Chancellor Street, at a cost of \$8,500. In 1933 the chapel was razed, and a new church erected on the site was dedicated on March 4, 1934.

Joseph Inslee was an early tavern keeper in Newtown, and in 1744 was one of the thirty persons in Bucks County licensed to keep a hotel. On July 24, 1751, Inslee purchased two court house lots in Square No. 2, having each a frontage of 33½ feet. In 1768, Anthony Siddons erected on the site a two-story brown-stone building for a public house. This building, called Justice's House, No. 107 south State Street, is now owned by the Estate of John Davis.

The widow of Siddons kept the place as a tavern during the Revolution, and it was at this hotel that William Alexander, Lord Stirling, was entertained with such a sumptuous dinner and good wine on January 17, 1777. In 1778, the house and lot were sold to John Torbert at Sheriff's sale as the property of Anthony Siddons, deceased. It was well kept as a tavern for many years, and although not large was always a resort of a good class of citizens. Torbert kept the Justice's House until General Murray bought the Court Inn of Ferguson in 1795. Murray, to maintain the reputation of Court Inn, rented it to John Torbert, so Torbert soon after moving thereinto, sold Justice's House on May 1, 1795 to Henry Wynkoop. In the deed was the privilege of the purchaser to have access to the pump on the Old Frame House lot next door. Wynkoop on February 23, 1796, sold Justice's House and the stable lot, which he had also purchased of Torbert, to Henry Vanhorn, carpenter. At a subsequent period this building was occupied by Hugh Ross as his private residence, and he kept a store in the frame building opposite.

The Newtown Library Company is the oldest public library in Bucks County, and is reputed to have the distinction of being the third oldest in the Commonwealth. The earliest minutes of this venerable institution, dated August 9, 1760, clearly show that there must have been some prior meetings, for they state:



Photograph by W. E. Randall.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL

Built in 1886, Razed in 1933, and a New Church Constructed on the Site

The Library Company met at the House of Joseph Thornton, Esq., in Newtown, and chose the Following persons to be Directors, Treasurer and Secretary of said Company, til the Last Seventh Day (of the week) in October Insuing:

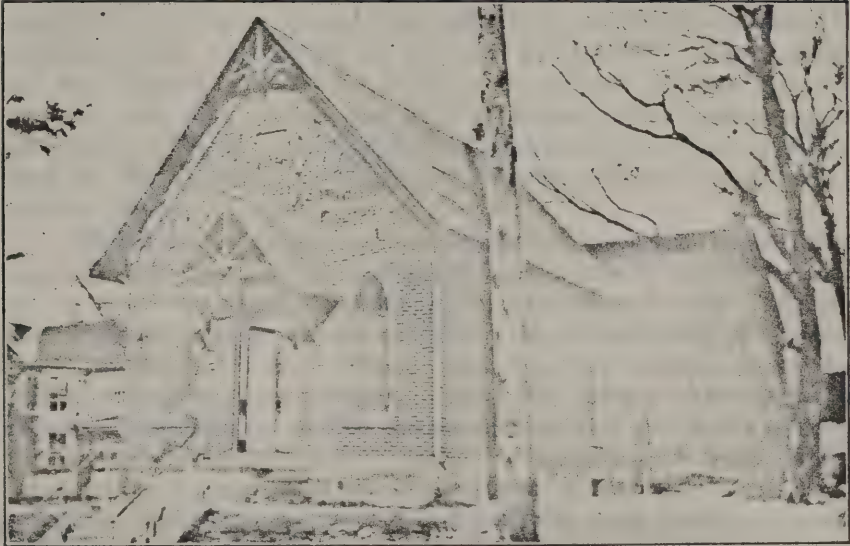
JONATHAN DUBOIS	} <i>Directors</i>
ABRAHAM CHAPMAN	
AMOS STRICKLAND	
DAVID TWINING &	
HENRY MARGERUM	
JOHN HARRIS, <i>Treasurer</i>	
THOMAS CHAPMAN, <i>Secretary.</i>	

On the same day, the newly elected directors met and passed a resolution that the collection of books and the company's effects were to be kept at the house of Joseph Thornton, Jr., [son of the builder of Court Inn], who was chosen librarian, and that the Subscribers should meet and make their first payment to the Company's Treasurer on the last Seventh Day in October next, being the time appointed for their Annual Payments to be made, and the yearly elections to be held; a custom which is still followed.

At the meeting held October 1, 1760, it was ordered that any person inclined to join the said Library might sign the Articles thereof by applying to Joseph Thornton. From these minutes it is clear that preliminary meetings had been held and By Laws adopted, and that the Association had books and effects.

At the annual meeting in 1761, 27 members paid their dues. Joseph Thornton, Jr., as above stated, was the first Librarian, but, because he had moved away from Newtown, David Twining was appointed in his place by the Directors, at a meeting held February 10, 1761. Twining's salary was £1 a year, and the books were to be kept at his house. In 1788 William Linton was appointed Secretary and Librarian. During the Revolutionary War period there were no meetings held from October 20, 1770 to October 25, 1783, "due," as the minute book quaintly states, "to the recent disturbance." On November 18, 1788 the Directors applied to the General Assembly for an act to incorporate their Company, which was chartered accordingly under the name of The Newtown Library Company on March 27, 1789. In 1802 James Heath was appointed Librarian and Treasurer in place of Abraham Chapman, who had resigned.

In 1806, the Library consisted of 456 volumes. Eight years later the Library was removed into the abandoned Court House. It is likely, that it was at this time that possession was acquired of the three straight back chairs that had been given to the Court by William Penn. These chairs are still the cherished property of the Library, and are now stored for safe keeping in the vault of the First National Bank & Trust Company. In 1824, the Library was housed for the first time in its own building, located



Photograph in Bucks County Historical Society.

Second Building

Erected by

THE NEWTOWN LIBRARY COMPANY

*Used from 1883 to 1912, when it was sold to William R. Stuckert and
by him converted into an office building.*

on a small lot which had been donated by Squire Isaac Hicks. This lot, on the west side of Court Street, about midway between Penn and Mercer Streets, is where the stables of the White Hall Hotel were later built. According to the minutes, the building was 15 feet square, 9 feet high, and lined with half inch boards. It had one chimney, and three windows with 16 panes each. The members apparently wished to have a neat building, and at a special meeting it was resolved: "Tommy Goslin," who lived across Court Street on the corner of Penn, "was appointed to paint the front of the Library house white and all the window shutters and doors green, the remainder of the woodwork to be whitewashed, for which he is to be paid \$3.00." The catalogue of the library printed in 1829* shows that the Company then owned 364 sets of books; 254 of these titles, comprising 740 volumes, are still in existence, but in April, 1934, they were taken out of circulation and put in special locked bookcases for preservation.

The Library continued to prosper, and when the old building became too small, the purchasing of a new lot and the erection of a new building was seriously considered. In 1882, Jesse Leedom presented a deed donating the lot situated at the northwest corner of Court Street and Centre Avenue, provided a Library building be erected within two years. The Committee worked vigorously, and by subscriptions and proceeds from public lectures, the necessary money was raised; a brick building erected, and furnished at a total cost of \$1642.41. In the Fall of 1883, the Library was moved into the new building, and the 60-year old building was sold for \$30. In 1886, Mary Anna Williamson, of Langhorne, bequeathed the Newtown Library the income of \$4000; and at about the same time, Joseph Barnsley, of Hartsville, died, and willed \$15,000 to his executors, in trust, to pay the income to his widow, and after her death to pay this sum to the Library Company for the building of a Free Reading Room with the power to use one-third of the principal for the erection of a suitable building.

In 1910 after the death of his widow, Lydia Barnsley, the Library came into possession of this fund. A lot belonging to Emmor K. Janney, on the southwest corner of Centre Avenue and Congress Street, was purchased, and the present colonial brick building erected by Garret B. Girton in 1911 was opened to the public on February 17th of the following year. The old building was sold to William R. Stuckert, who still owns it.

*Copy in Bucks County Historical Society. The oldest catalogue in existence is now preserved in the manuscript room of the Pennsylvania Historical Society. It was written in 1790 for John Swift, Esq., of Bensalem township.

The Brick Hotel stands on a tract of land originally owned by Shadrach Walley. From Shadrach the title passed to his only son John; and then Joseph, the son of John, inherited from the latter a four-fifths interest in all the land east of State Street and lying between Penn and Jefferson Streets, (except the five acres purchased by the County in 1725). In 1750, Amos Strickland, Sr., at a sheriff's sale, became the owner of Joseph Walley's interest, except for the hotel and half acre of ground adjoining. This is the first mention of a hotel on this site, and it is believed that the Red Lion Inn was erected thereon sometime previous to 1750.

In 1760 Joseph Walley, saddler, died seized and possessed of a house and lot, which, with the improvements, were in the possession of George Dunn, the place formerly being known as the Red Lion Inn. The property was sold by Joseph Thornton, Jr., sheriff, to Strickland for £40. Amos Strickland was a man of intelligence, and considerable business ability. He married Agnes Buckman, widow, whose young husband had died in 1733. She was the daughter of John Penquite of Wrightstown, and became a prominent Quaker minister. In 1746, Amos was appointed for the two year term of County Sheriff. After the death of Agnes, Amos married secondly, at Wrightstown Meeting, Margaret Thornton, of Middletown. In 1753, Amos was county commissioner.

In 1764 Strickland burnt a kiln of brick in his meadow near the spring, north of what is now Washington Avenue and east of Lincoln Avenue, and in that same year built the two-story brick house that is now called the Brick Hotel. From the brick left over, Margaret Thornton, [wife of Joseph, Sr., builder of Court Inn] constructed the front part of the house at No. 107 south Court Street. Strickland died in 1779 at his Hotel, leaving a widow and four children: Amos, Jr., Rachel, Elizabeth, and Frances. Rachel Strickland became the wife of Mark Hapenny, and had three children: Amos Hapenny; Frances Strickland Hapenny, who married John Yardley; and James Hapenny. Elizabeth Strickland married first, Dr. James deNormandie, and they had four children: John, Amos, Anthony, and James. Elizabeth married secondly, Jacob Kessler, Newtown's first postmaster. Frances Strickland apparently died unmarried. Amos Strickland, Jr. inherited his father's hotel property, and on April 17, 1787, sold the Inn and 14 acres to Mark Hapenny, his brother-in-law. Amos then removed to Morrisville where his wife Charlotte died in March, 1797, and he in the May following.

On February 6, 1797, Joseph Fell, Sheriff, sold out Hapenny; and Jacob Barker and Robert Smith, liquor merchants of Philadelphia, purchased the property. They rented the place to John Smock, and on May 8, 1797, conveyed it to John Martin, tailor,

of Philadelphia, for \$1400. Martin on May 14, 1801, deeded the property to Jane Bartram, who, on April 1, 1808, conveyed it to Charles Hinkle, innkeeper. When Hinkle made an application for a license in August, 1821, it was spoken of as the Sign of the Coach and Horse. After Hinkle's death, his widow Ann maintained the establishment until April 1, 1828, when his executors sold out to Jolly Longshore. Longshore owned the property for only a year, when it was purchased by Joseph O. Archambault on April 1, 1829. Major Archambault was a very interesting character. The following account of his life was written by Josiah Smith in about 1872:

To obtain some information of his early life I called at his residence at Philadelphia, a year or two before his death. He was evidently becoming rather feeble. I had never known him, but as I had sent word to him the day before I made the call, by his son, requesting an interview, I found him sitting in the parlor with his wife waiting for me.

I told him that as he had lived in Newtown, and had become a part of the history of the place, I would like to take some little of the history of his early life for preservation.

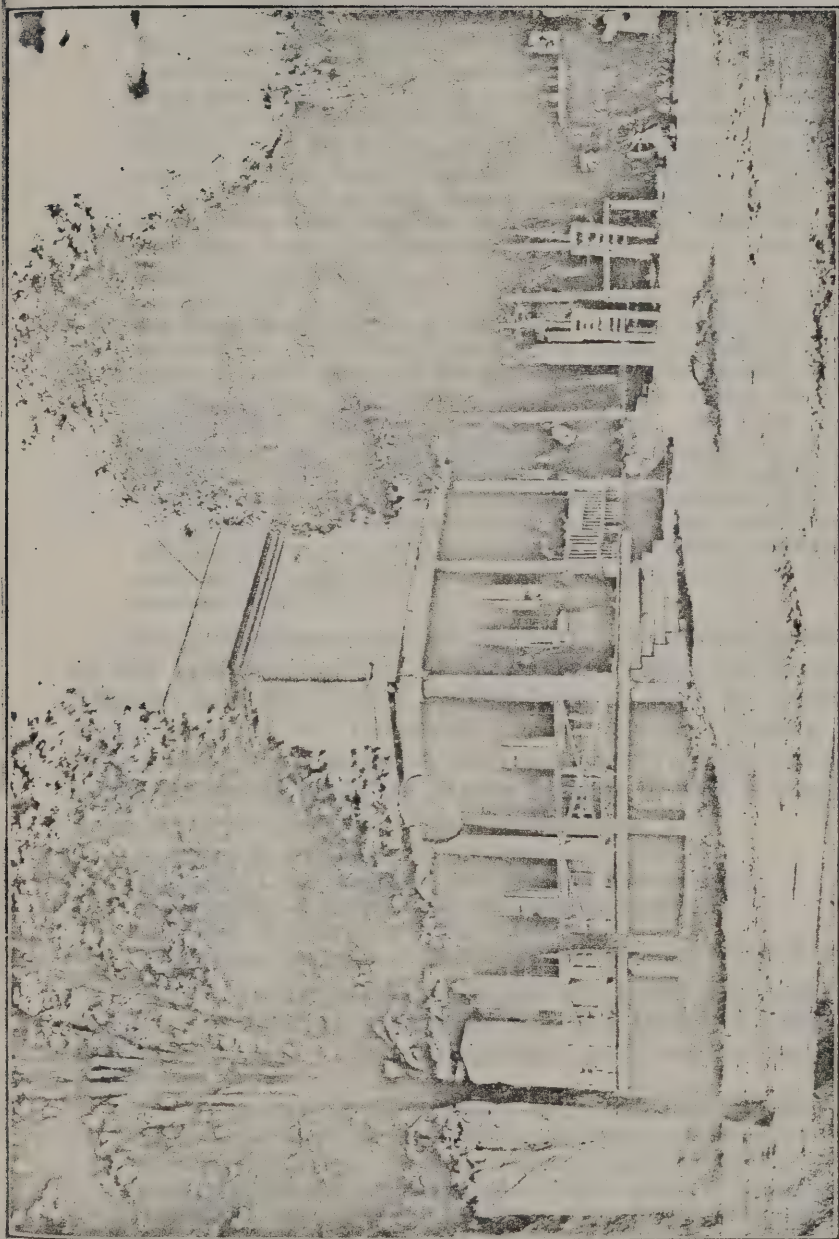
The following is the substance of the interview. His wife took a lively interest in the conversation, and in several instances when the Major had forgotten, she answered my questions.

Major Archambault was born in France in 1798. At the age of ten years he was placed in the Emperor Bonaparte's Riding School, at St. Cloude, at which place he received, in addition to his general literary education, a thorough training in military horsemanship, and knowledge of the horse in every fibre and muscle, as taught by diagrams and skeletons as fully as the subject of the human body is taught in medical schools. He was always fond of a good horse and it was a study of special interest to learn the most approved style of mounting a horse, holding the reins, position of the head, body, arms, knees, and feet. He attended the school six years, and then entered the army for one year. The emperor at that time was taken prisoner in 1815, and was sent to St. Helena.

Archambault was one of the suite of 18 persons who were permitted to go with the prisoner into exile. The general care and supervision of the horses were his particular duties. He broke and trained four horses for the special use of the Emperor, which proved to be, on trial, highly satisfactory.

The Emperor frequently walked out to see the horses on the track, and talked about their good points in a free and social manner. At the end of 13 months the English Government began to complain of the unnecessary expense of supporting such a large retinue of officers, men and horses. A short time after, under command of the authority, a large portion of them were shipped to Cape of Good Hope. From that place they were sent in an English war vessel to England. The ship touched at St. Helena on the way, and Archambault was very anxious to land to see the Emperor. But the request was refused, and all the satisfaction he could obtain was, "The Emperor is well." As he could not live in France without the Emperor, he soon took passage in a ship bound for New York, and reached the port safely in 1816.

He lived there nearly three years, married, and removed to Phila-



Photograph owned by Sarah W. Hicks ; taken about 1865.

BRICK HOTEL

Showing Sign Painted by Edward Hicks, and Gambrel Roof with Dormer Windows Built by Joseph O. Archambault in 1836

delphia. After living there a short time he removed to Newtown with his wife in 1819.

At that time Lydia McCarty had a boarding school in the three-story stone house, erected by Thomas Ross for a hotel, before the new Court House was built in Doylestown. Jonathan Paxson and his sisters, Betsy and Rachel, lived in the house and took in other boarders in addition to the school. Mr. and Mrs. Archambault boarded with them until Miss McCarty, the teacher, married Charles Leedom. The Paxsons then removed to their farm on the road from Dolington to Wrightstown.

Archambault at that time bought the Kennedy house at No. 149 North State Street, and the two acres of land adjoining. He lived at that place four years, and then removed to what is now known as the Temperance House.

On April 1, 1828, the executors of Charles Hinkle, deceased, sold the Brick Hotel with 14 acres of land to Jolly Longshore, who was the store keeper of the Middle Store. Jolly rented the hotel to Archambault, and just a year later sold the property to him for \$4,000. Archambault in the meantime had become a dentist*, and worked at the business several years after he moved to the hotel. He lived at the hotel nine years, and in about 1836 made improvements on the property, raising the east end another story, making it a three-story house. At the same time he also built the two-story brick addition at the West end.

Archambault was captain of the Bucks County Cavalry for 20 years. He removed from the hotel to a farm at Castle Valley, Doylestown Township, in 1837, and from there to Philadelphia, where he spent the remainder of his life.

Smith does not mention the fact, but Archambault was one of the last Postmasters of Newtown before its incorporation. After he had removed to Philadelphia in 1842, he conducted the Buck Hotel at No. 130 north Second Street. During the Civil War he became a major in the Union Army. His death occurred in Philadelphia in 1874. Major Joseph O. and Susan Archambault were the parents of five children:

1. Victor E. Archambault, who married Cecelia M.
2. Achille L. Archambault, who married Henrietta B.
3. Lafayette Archambault,† who married Susan H.
4. Napoleon Bonaparte Archambault.‡
5. Roselma Josephine Archambault, who married James M. Cox.

When Archambault enlarged his hotel and improved the property in 1836, he employed Edward Hicks to paint a tavern sign for the same. Concerning this sign, Sherman Day, wrote ‡ in 1843:

A specimen of his [Edward Hick's] self-acquired skill in the fine arts, as well as of his high-souled patriotism, may be seen on the tavern-sign in the village. It is no ordinary specimen of village art, but is really the spirited production of a skilful artist. On one side is represented the crossing of the Delaware, after Sully's design; but, with true

*Gen. W. W. H. Davis related that when he was a boy "Dr." Archambault extracted eleven of his teeth one Saturday afternoon. [E. R. B.]

†When Major Archambault developed his property, he opened up two streets, with the provision that they be called Lafayette Street and Napoleon Street. However, sometime between 1857 and 1860, the names were changed; the former becoming Liberty Street and the latter becoming Greene Street.

‡*Historical Recollections of Pennsylvania*; p. 171.

historical accuracy, the general is represented as mounted upon a chestnut-sorrel horse, and not upon a white horse, as is usual in paintings of that scene. It seems that the distinguished white charger, so well known to all, was a great favorite with the commander-in-chief; and being somewhat in years, the general selected for the arduous service of that night a younger and more vigorous animal. On the other side of the sign is the declaration of independence, after Trumbull's design.

Joseph O. Archambault on March 29, 1837 sold out to Oliver H. Cadwallader, who, two years later, conveyed the property to Stephen Brock, of Doylestown. On March 26, 1840, Brock deeded it to Samuel Moore Hough, of New Hope. In 1838, Hough was adjutant of the 33rd Regiment, Pa. Militia, of which his brother, Joseph, was lieutenant-colonel commanding. His first marriage was to Elizabeth N. Harman, sister of Daniel Yerkes Harman (proprietor of White Hall, 1852-1858). His second marriage was to Araminta D. Beans, a niece of his first wife.

Samuel Moore Hough on March 1, 1851, sold his hotel to Jacob L. Walton, of Philadelphia. Seven weeks later Walton sold it to James C. Rook. Rook on April 1, 1856, sold the property to William L. Lewis. Subsequent owners have been:

WARREN GROOM	1862—1868
HUGH ATKINSON	1868—1875
WILLIAM KLETT	1875—1878
WILLIAM WILKINSON	1878—1881
MARY J. WILKINSON	1881—1884
ABNER F. CLEAVER.....	1884—1901
ROBERT CRAIG	1901—

In 1757, Margaret Thornton, proprietor of Court Inn, bought the lot on the south side of her tavern, and erected a few years later a brown-stone house with a brick front. It is believed that these bricks are ones that were left over after the construction of the old part of the Brick Hotel by Amos Strickland, Sr. Joseph Thornton, husband of Margaret, was a brother-in-law of Amos Strickland, Sr., which helps to account for the fact that the brick in these two buildings are identical. In 1782 this house was built half a story higher, leaving the lower part as originally constructed.

On December 16, 1790, the executors of Margaret Thornton, deceased, sold this house and lot to Abraham Chapman, lawyer, of Newtown. Abraham was born August 13, 1767, the son of Joseph and Ann (Fell) Chapman. He was a lawyer by profession, and was admitted to the bar at West Chester, removing to Newtown in 1790, as aforesaid. After selling his house in 1811 to Edward Hicks at the latter's insistence, he boarded with Hicks until the seat of justice was transferred to Doylestown. In 1812 Abraham's wife Elizabeth died. She was the daughter of Dr.

Hugh Meredith of Doylestown. In 1813 Chapman removed to that place, and continued his practice until about 1832 when he retired. Chapman died on February 24, 1856, and was buried at Wrightstown; he left two children, Wilhelmina and Henry.

On April 11, 1811, Abraham Chapman and Elizabeth, his wife, conveyed their house to Edward Hicks of Hulmeville. On April 10, 1821, Edward Hicks and Sarah, his wife, conveyed the same house and lot to John Comly, of Byberry Township, Philadelphia county, and in that year built the stone house on Penn Street. In 1834, Comly sold the property to Joseph Schofield, of Newtown, and in 1865 the latter's widow, Lydia, conveyed the same to Mrs. David K. Krusen. Two years later title passed to Major Joseph B. Roberts, who conducted for many years a tin shop located where the brick building on State Street, lately Charles Tranter's meat store, was afterwards built. After ten years Major Roberts sold this property to Mrs. John H. Hellings, Jr. The Hellings sold out to Edward Atkinson, of Wrightstown township, in 1878, and in 1907 their children conveyed the place to Clayton Keller, the present owner.

On August 17, 1768, the Provincial Grand Lodge granted a warrant, No. 11, to sundry Brethren to hold a Lodge of Ancient York Masons in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, at the village of Newtown, or within five miles of the same. No copy of the original warrant, or list of members of this Lodge is in existence. It is known, however, that the Lodge flourished with considerable success until 1781. During the Revolutionary period, the Brethren became scattered, the meetings irregular, and many of the books and papers lost or destroyed.

At the close of the War, in about 1780, there was an attempted revival in the Lodge's activity; at that time John Atkinson, Jr., was Master; Andrew McMinn, Senior Warden; Patrick Hunter, Junior Warden; and John Tomlinson, Secretary. But the rehabilitation was not a success, and the warrant of this old Provincial Lodge was finally surrendered in December, 1781.

On March 4, 1793, a second warrant, No. 57, was granted for a Masonic Lodge at Newtown. The petitioners for the same were:

JAMES BAYNET.	JAMES HANNA.
READING BEATTY.	PATRICK HUNTER.
JONATHAN DONE.	ANDREW MCMINN.
JOSEPH ERWIN.	JAMES TATE.
JOSIAH FERGUSON.	JOHN TORBERT.
THEOPHILUS FOULKE	GEORGE WALL.

NICHOLAS WYNKOOP.

Reading Beatty was chosen Master; James Hanna, Senior Warden; and Nicholas Wynkoop, Junior Warden, of the said Lodge, the original warrant of which is still in existence.

Dr. Reading Beatty, Master, was born on December 25, 1757, the son of Rev. Charles Beatty by his wife Ann, the daughter of Governor John Reading of New Jersey. He was a student of medicine at the outbreak of the Revolution, but went into service as ensign in Capt. Richardson's Company, 5th Pennsylvania Regiment; he was taken prisoner of war in 1776, and after his release in 1778 was appointed in May of that year ensign in the 6th Pennsylvania Regiment. On May 1, 1780 he was surgeon in the 16th Pennsylvania Regiment, and in September of the following year was transferred to Proctor's Artillery in which he served until the end of the war. He then removed to Newtown, and on April 20, 1786* married Christina Wynkoop, the daughter of Judge Henry and Ann (Knipers) Wynkoop. His residence after 1823 was in the Linton Mansion [Arcade Building], where he died October 29, 1831, and was buried in the Presbyterian Graveyard. The Beattys were the parents of five children: Henry Wynkoop, Charles Clinton, Susanna, John, and Sarah.

James Hanna, Esq., Senior Warden, was a prominent lawyer in Newtown. From 1788 to 1802 he held the combined office of Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds. He married on April 20, 1785,* (exactly one year before Beatty's marriage), Mary Harris, the daughter of John and Hannah (Stewart) Harris, and they had four children. Hanna lived in the Washington Headquarters House, which had belonged to his father-in-law, and like Beatty and Wynkoop was a member of the Presbyterian Church. He removed to Kentucky late in life.

Dr. Nicholas Wynkoop, Junior Warden, was a brother-in-law of Dr. Beatty. He was born in 1770, studied medicine and practiced his profession in Northampton township. On April 4, 1793,* Dr. Wynkoop married Francenia, the eldest daughter of General Francis Murray, of Newtown. Their twin sons, Henry Wynkoop and Francis Murray Wynkoop, were baptized on June 25, 1797.* Wynkoop removed to Virginia later in life, and died there.

In 1796, Nicholas Wynkoop in behalf of the Brethren, bought Common lot No. 5, upon which the Masons built, or partly built, a two-story frame house for a Lodge Hall. Apparently, however, because of the financial burden of the construction of the Hall, the Lodge had more or less of a precarious existence from this time on.† After the close of the century, the organization became inactive, and the warrant was finally vacated on April 7, 1806.

*Records of Newtown Presbyterian Church.

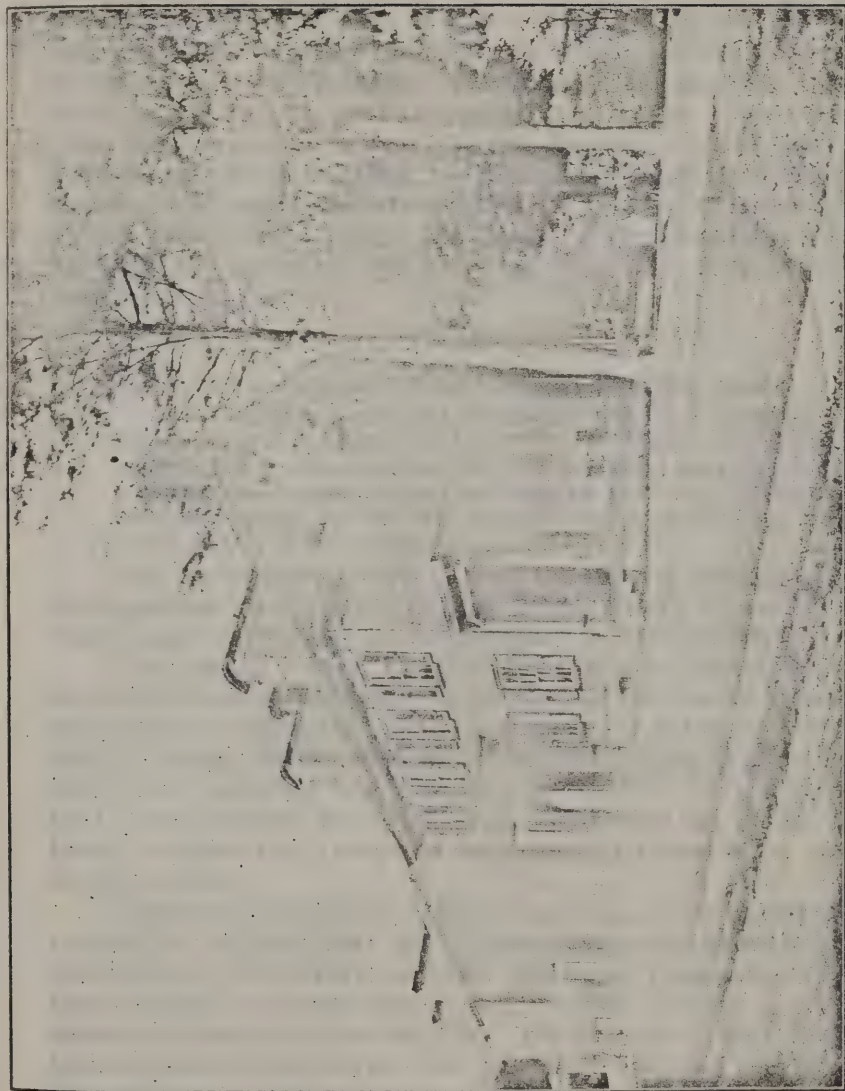
†In 1804, the Trustees of Newtown Common brought suit against Dr. Wynkoop for the interest on his mortgage of Lot No. 5; and on March 17th of that year, James Raguet, the treasurer of the Lodge, paid the back ground-rent of \$59.33. [Minutes of the Trustees of Newtown Common.]

In 1804, Squire Isaac Hicks bought the building from the Masons, thinking his son Edward, who was then living in Milford (Hulmeville) and who had just married Sarah Worstall, might like to come to Newtown to live. But Edward did not so desire until 1811. On December 25, 1804, Isaac advertised in the *Pennsylvania Correspondent* his "house known as the 'Lodge,' in Newtown, nearly finished." This house was painted red, and was known until about 1870 as the Old Red House. After the death of Judge Michael H. Jenks in 1867, his fourth wife and widow bought the Old Red House, and lived therein until her death. Since that time it has been much altered; being at various periods, a school, a store, a private residence, and a laundry. It is now owned by Stephen M. Vandegrift, who uses it as a store and dwelling house (No. 114 south State Street).

On September 10, 1868, a third warrant, No. 427, was granted for a Lodge in Newtown, a century after the institution of the first Masonic organization in the village. This Lodge continues to function until the present day.

Court House Lot No. 4, at the northeast corner of Court Street and Centre Avenue, was sold by the trustees in 1757 to Thomas Hillborn. Hillborn made but little improvement on the property, and in 1770 sold it to Bernard Taylor. The latter built the beautiful stone dwelling house still standing, the one which is the residence of Mrs. Horace G. Reeder, and this certainly must have been an imposing structure for a private residence in the little village of Newtown prior to the Revolution. In 1784, Bernard Taylor sold his house and lot to Francis Murray, Newtown's most notable citizen.

Murray made the house his home from the time of his purchase until his death in 1816, and kept a store in the small room on the north side of the hall. Murray seems to have been a merchant by profession, and a soldier by avocation, but lacked the ability to keep out of the enemy's hands. Before the Revolution, he settled in Newtown and conducted a store in the stone house now the restaurant of Edwin W. Jones; at the outbreak of the Revolution he enlisted in the service of his country, but was captured by the British on an expedition to New York, being released on December 8, 1776. He returned to Newtown, and escorted the Hessian prisoners to Lancaster. On the February 6th following he was commissioned a Major by John Hancock, and attached to Col. Stewart's Regiment. Here he remained until captured by the British again on February 9, 1778; this time he was confined at Flatbush, Long Island, and was not released until 1780. After his return to Newtown, Murray was



Photograph by W. E. Randall.

HOME AND STORE OF GENERAL FRANCIS MURRAY
Built about 1772 by Bernard Taylor, Now the Residence of Mrs. Horace G. Reader

paid off on March 24, 1781 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He was made County Lieutenant in 1783, and in 1790, General of the militia. General Murray died November 5, 1816, aged 74, and was buried in the Presbyterian Graveyard. By his heirs his mansion house was sold to David Roberts [father of Stokes L. Roberts, of Doylestown] in 1835. In 1859 Charles Leedom, father of the late Jesse Leedom, purchased the property from the Roberts' estate. It then contained 3.48 acres. Since Leedom's time the owners have been George Brooks, 1892 to 1902; Judge Edward M. Paxson, 1902 to 1912; and from 1912 Horace G. Reeder, who somewhat remodeled the house but made it a most attractive dwelling. Since the death of Mr. Reeder on February 17, 1931, the property has been the residence of his widow and married daughter.

An Act of Assembly passed March 21, 1772, said:

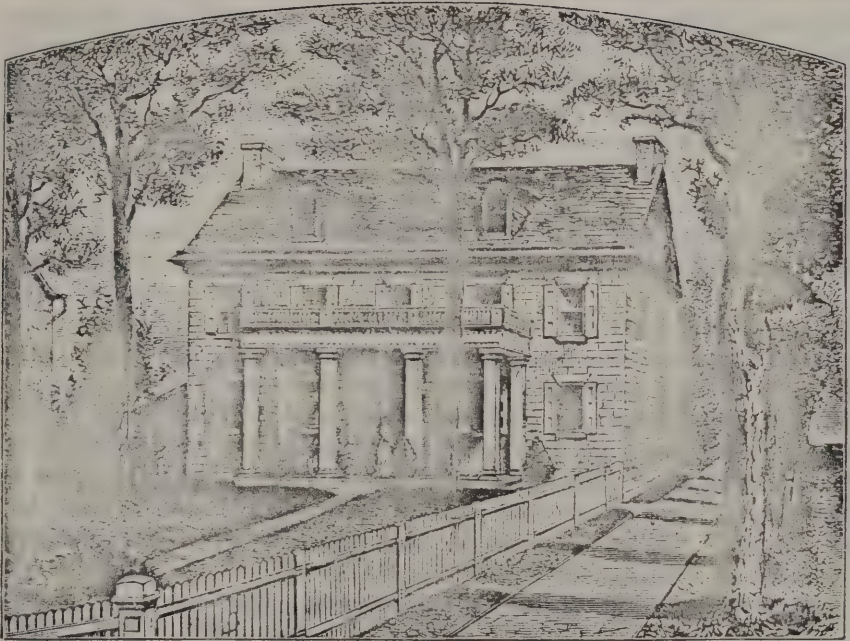
The Commissioners and Assessors with the approbation of the Justices and Grand Jury of the County of Bucks have at considerable expense lately erected in the town of Newtown, near the Court House, a strong commodious house, well secured from fire, accidents and evil minded persons, for the safe keeping and preserving the records and public papers of the county.

The act provided further that the official documents should be deposited and kept in the said house, under a penalty of £300, "any usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding."

This record house, 12 by 16 feet, inside measurement, was located between the Keeper's house and the Court House. The stone walls were 2 feet thick, and the roof composed of a brick arch; A large throated chimney and fire place was at the west end. The building was removed by Dr. D. B. Heilig in about 1874. In removing the brick arch, Heilig had one of his arms so badly crushed that it was at first thought it would be necessary to amputate it.

After the Revolution, public business in the county had increased so rapidly, that the "Commodious fire proof office" was inadequate. Therefore, in 1796, the County purchased a lot on the west side of State Street, and erected thereon a very handsome brown-stone office building. On January 6, 1817, the County Commissioners conveyed this building and the lot of ground fronting on Centre Avenue to Thomas G. Kennedy. On October 9th of the following year, Kennedy sold the place to Rev. Alexander Boyd, pastor of the Newtown Presbyterian Congregation, for \$1250.

This building was for many years the residence of David Story. On October 2, 1837, his widow Rachel, conveyed the mansion to Michael Hutchinson Jenks. On March 31, 1868, William J.



Engraved for W. H. Jenks by W. T. Smedley, 1879.

HOME OF DAVID STORY

Built in 1796 by the County Commissioners as an Office Building. For 30 years the Residence of Judge Michael H. Jenks. Now Converted into a Store Property by the First National Bank and Trust Company

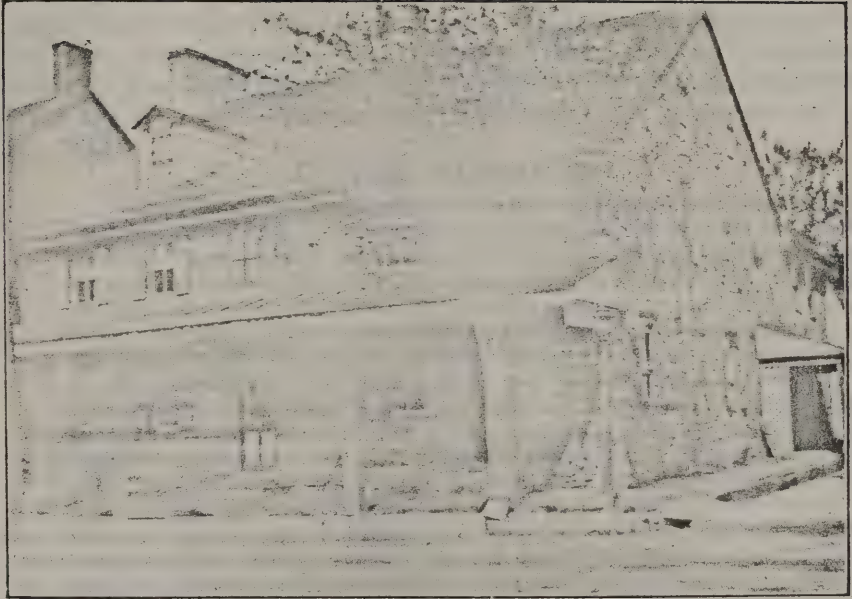
Jenks, son and surviving heir of the Judge, sold the house to the First National Bank of Newtown, who utilized it as their banking office. In 1884 the Bank sold it to J. Pemberton Hutchinson, who willed it to his brother, Edward S. Hutchinson, in 1901. In 1922 the Bank bought it back from the last named, and later completely altered the old building into a store.

The lot of land upon which the Temperance House stands is part of the 278 acre tract patented to Mary Hayworth on Sixth Month 26, 1704. By various conveyances, it descended to Joseph Walley, whose property was sold by Sheriff Hart in 1750, and the portion under consideration purchased by Amos Strickland, Sr. On May 1, 1772, Amos and Margaret (Thornton) Strickland sold this lot to Andrew McMinn, schoolmaster, for £10. At this time there was an old house at the back part of the lot, in which McMinn lived, until he built the first part of the present building as a tavern and school house, shortly before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War.

It must be remembered that when McMinn made his purchase in 1772, Court Street had not yet been opened above the north bounding alley of the County property. Therefore, when "Andy" decided to erect a new building he faced it on, or rather in, State Street, a statement literally true because the front part of this building extends 3 feet into the public right of way. The old part of the Temperance House, that is the southwest corner which is now the enlarged bar room, is a decade younger than the old part of the Brick Hotel. However, unlike the latter, it has not been in continuous use as a tavern since its construction. Josiah Smith, who was a temperance advocate, does not seem to have cared much about the McMinns. Concerning them he wrote, "Andy and Nancy were both fond of whiskey. Nancy was the bartender in their little tavern, and with Andy made two good customers."

Andrew McMinn and Nancy, his wife, sold the property to Francis Murray, under whom "Andy" had served as a non-commissioned officer during the Revolution. Murray rented it out for a tavern as long as he lived, one of the renters being Charles Hinkle, who, at a later period owned the Brick Hotel. On April 1, 1824, Murray's executors sold it to John W. Wynkoop, Rev. Alexander Boyd, and Dr. Phineas Jenks, who conveyed it on March 28, 1826, to Joseph O. Archambault. The latter owned it for three years, and in the Spring of 1829 traded the property to Jolly Longshore* for the Brick Hotel which Jolly had purchased

*He was born on Eleventh Month 9, 1786, the eldest son of James and Frances Longshore. James was born on Third Month 28, 1758, the son of Robert and Ursula (Jolly) Longshore. (Records of Makefield Meeting.)



Photograph by Cora Willard, 1894.

TEMPERANCE HOUSE

Formerly the Niagara House

*Built at Various Periods Beginning About 1774, Conducted as a Tavern
Continuously for a Century*

the year before. Longshore was living in the house at the time he bought it, so evidently had rented it from Archambault for sometime previous to this. Jolly Longshore and Mercy, his wife, on April 4, 1834, conveyed the property to Cyrus Betts. It was during the proprietorship of Longshore and of Betts that the building was not maintained as a public house. They kept a store in the present bar room.

Thomas Betts on April 1, 1835, sold out to Louisa C. Feaster. Mrs. Feaster did not run the establishment herself, but rented it to Chilion W. Higgs, the congenial borough constable and stage coach driver for many years. During his administration, the Inn was converted for the first time into a Temperance House. The following account of the conversion is transcribed from the *Newtown Journal and Workingmen's Advocate* of June 20, 1843:

THE CELEBRATION

The celebration which came off in "our Borough" last Saturday was quite an affair, and as we Journalize all news we can but give it a passing notice. From certain indications in the morning apprehensions rested on the minds of many, that the whole affair was likely to be a complete failure, but by eleven o'clock, our streets assumed quite a lively appearance. Banners came in from the neighboring Temperance societies and the aspect of things was considerably changed. People came pouring in to the elevation of the sign, which was to mark the spot where the Temperance man could find accommodation for himself and his horse. About half past eleven o'clock a sign appropriate to the cause was suspended on the same tree that formerly supported it although now bearing quite a different inscription. On one side is a representation of the man spoken of in the Parable, being left in a suffering situation by the thieves, who, as the painting represents, are making the best of their way from the spot, to a rendezvous in a neighboring wood.—The Jeffersonians have taken up the sufferer and are bearing him to the Temperance Inn, where they find Chilion at the door waiting to receive them. The opposite side is a representation of the Temperance man's triumph, a painting significant of the object, and which reflects great credit to the pencil of the designer.* After the raising we understand that appropriate addresses were delivered by Jesse L. Booze and Rev. Mr. Lauer, and the company afterwards partook of a sumptuous dinner, prepared on strict temperance principles by Mrs. Higgs. About two o'clock P. M. a procession was formed and marched to the Free church, where the following song was sung by the audience which added greatly to the interest of the occasion:

*We Temperance men that have met here,
Have met with one design;
In Newtown Boro', at Higgs' Hotel,
At the Raising of his Sign.*

*At the Raising of his Sign;
In Newtown at Higgs' Hotel,
At the Raising of his sign.
Oh, we will be joyful, joyful, joyful,*

*Probably Edward Hicks. [E.R.B.]

*Oh, we will be joyful,
 At the Raising of the Sign,
 At the Raising of the Sign,
 At the Raising of the Sign;
 We Temperance men that have met here,
 At the Raising of the Sign.*

*And when this Sign is raised up,
 On Higgs' Temperance fort,
 We Temperance men with hand and heart,
 Will give it our support.*

*The Ladies too, and they not few,
 That you will surely find;
 With all their aid and influence mild,
 Support the Temperance Sign.*

*We Temperance men will drive ahead
 Nor ever will we pause,
 Until the tyrant Alcohol
 Be driven from our shores.*

*So Temperance men, come one and all,
 We never will repine;
 But with one voice cry out aloud,
 Hurra for the TEMPERANCE SIGN!*

The meeting was then addressed by a Mr. White, David G. Walton, and Edward Paxson, Esq., who handled the subject in a very eloquent and ingenious manner. Mr. P. is a great logician, and assumed positions in his speech that only a few men could maintain, being extremely ultra and accompanied by the most withering sarcasm. The meeting adjourned before night fall, and quietly dispersed, when our little borough assumed its usual quiet appearance, almost every one having spent the day pleasantly, and probably had the company of some of their friends, who perhaps thought that paying a visit and raising a sign would be "killing two birds with one stone."

The owner of the Temperance House, Mrs. Louisa C. Feaster, had married Dr. William B. Watson, and after her death her son, John J. Feaster, sold the House on March 4, 1854 to Aaron Rose, who maintained the establishment in name and fact. To provide for a front entrance to the back yard and stables, Rose bought a driveway from his neighbor, Joseph Briggs, in 1857. In 1866, Aaron sold the House to Joseph W. Willard, who took down the Temperance Sign, and called his hotel the Niagara House, which still, however, conveyed the same thought to the thirsty traveler. When his brother, Samuel R. Willard, later purchased the property he found in the barn a large oval sign that had been hung over the street. On both sides of the sign was painted a deer with large horns standing by Niagara Falls.

In 1869, Willard sold his Niagara House to John Stackhouse, who, in the same year, conveyed it to James W. Hellings. The

latter sold it the following year to Jacob Taylor. The next year, 1871, James C. Finney, Taylor's administrator, sold the hotel to Joseph Willard's brother, Samuel Randall Willard, who erected in 1874 the large brick stables and ice house on Court Street. Mr. Willard conducted the establishment very successfully as a temperance hotel, oyster and ice cream saloon. At first, he called* his establishment the Niagara Temperance House, but apparently the first name was soon dropped. After a quarter of a century, in 1896, he sold out to John W. Whitlock. Subsequent owners have been Charles C. Johnson, William W. Fabian, Harry H. Leedom, Spencer A. Reeder, and John J. Burns. The last named sold it on March 23, 1934 to George Benetz, the present proprietor.

Prior to the Revolution, at least three tan yards flourished in Newtown. The oldest of these was operated by James Yeates, Sr., over two centuries ago. Josiah Smith wrote in 1875, that at that time traces of this tan yard were still visible along Newtown Creek below Barclay Street. All history concerning this early operation is now lost.

The second tan yard was also located along Newtown Creek, on the west side, about midway between Washington and Centre Avenues. It is believed that David Twining established this industry after he settled on the tract and improved it in the early 1700's, and no doubt he began tanning on the Common before it was surveyed in 1716. John Harris, who purchased the farm from the Twinings in 1757, was the last known operator of the yard.† On November 7, 1796, James Hanna purchased from the Trustees Common Lot No. 36. It was on the front part of this lot that the tan yard had been located. All evidence had been forgotten about it until 1870, when Palmer McMasters excavated for the foundation of his wheelwright shop, [now the double frame house owned by Mrs. H. C. Case] and uncovered the old wooden vats.

The third tan yard, the only one in Newtown about which there is any definite history, was established by Joseph Worstall after 1774. The ground upon which he built his shops was purchased from the Trustees of the court house lots by Samuel Sykes in 1757. He sold it to Francis Murray in 1761, who conveyed it in 1774 to Joseph Worstall, the great grandfather of the late George Cunningham Worstall.

*See advertisement in *Newtown Enterprise* of March 2, 1871. Also the *Catalogue of Bucks County Farms Offered for Sale by Barclay J. Smith*, printed in November, 1871, refers to Willard's hotel as the Niagara House.

†The tax returns show that after his death, his widow Hannah operated the tannery as late as 1781. In that year, also, was taxed the tan yard belonging to Anthony Teate's estate [formerly Yeates'].

Joseph Worstall made up his leather into shoes, but was not called tanner in any of his early deeds. Part of the business in the early 1800's consisted in the grinding of tan bark, and selling it to other tanners. This bark was ground by horse power, packed into hogsheads, and hauled to Yardley's Ferry where it was transported to Philadelphia by Durham boats. After being inspected, the bark was then ready for sale in the market. The black oak bark called quercitron was bought for dye stuff, and all other kinds, was bought under the name of Spanish Oak to be used for tanning. In 1829, an incendiary named Joshua Gibbons Walker set fire to the tan yard buildings and burnt down the entire set, which consisted of a large barn, a wagon house, two barracks, two currying shops, and two mill houses, containing a large quantity of bark. As there was no insurance on the property, the loss was ruinous to the owner. Walker was convicted of burning the property and sent to the penitentiary for 10 years. Following the fire there were no improvements made, and the property became very much dilapidated. In 1842, Joseph Worstall's grandson, Edward H. Worstall, bought the ground and put it in good repair for business. From that date until 1887 the tan yard was in continuous operation. The following advertisement is taken from the *Newtown Journal and Workingmen's Advocate* of May 16, 1843:

LEATHER STORE

THE Subscriber takes this method of informing his friends and the public generally that he has removed to Newtown, to the old stand, on Second street, opposite the Library, where he intends keeping a good assortment of

L E A T H E R

Such as Sole Leather, Wax and Grain, Upper Kip skins, Calf skins, Harness, Bridle and Collar Leather. Morrocco of all kinds, Sheep linings, colored and plain, which will be sold at prices to suit the times.

EDWARD H. WORSTALL,

N. B. The highest price paid for Hides, Skins and Bark.

The first schoolmaster in Newtown was Hugh Thompson. It is unknown where his school was located, but it is likely it was on the two acre lot at the southeast corner of Court and Penn Streets which he purchased from John Stapler in 1788. The first school house in Newtown, of which there is any definite information, was built on the Common prior to the Revolutionary War. The exact date of erection is unknown, but it was some-

time before 1772, as in that year the schoolmaster, Andrew McMinn, purchased what is now the Temperance House property. According to the writings of Josiah Smith, there were a few people alive in 1875 who remembered the old school house as it stood in 1808, and the following account of McMinn is transcribed from Smith's Manuscript:

The appearance of Andy the Irish schoolmaster of 1808 is yet fresh in the memory of the few persons still living in Newtown who attended his school. He was a tall, coarse, rough man, who wore a wide rimmed three-cornered hat at all times during school hours. He wore breeches and shoes, his legs bare, but sometimes covered with bean leaves pressed tightly around them. He was an inveterate tobacco chewer, and kept a circular line on the floor in front of his arm chair moistened with tobacco juice. Nicholas Willard relates a little incident that occurred while he was a boy at Andy's school. "Andy had a stone quarry in the back part of the lot, and on one occasion a man drove up to the school house in a wagon during school hours for a load of stone. The master got up from his chair, walked out, turned the key in the padlock outside, and left us locked in the house, while he went to the quarry with the man."

Andy would be too vulgar a man in appearance and speech even to be a hostler of a roadside inn of today, even if he were sober. Sometimes he was so stupefied with rum while seated in his chair during school hours that he could not answer questions. His wife, Nancy, at such times would come into the schoolroom and take the children back into the part of the house where they lived, and act as teacher, leaving her husband asleep in the chair.

The house formerly belonging to Dr. Howard A. Trego, now the residence and store of Watson T. Hillborn, was built on the old school house lot by John Bond in 1827. Trego in enlarging and improving his property in April, 1876, discovered under the kitchen cellar an old well that had been filled with stone. It is believed that this old well had been dug for the use of Andrew McMinn's school. When the Common Lots were sold in 1796, McMinn purchased No. 11, the lot upon which his school house was standing, for £100, and in this building continued teaching until his death. In 1790 McMinn bought a share in the Newtown Library, but did not keep it up very well and sold it a few years later.

61-62

HISTORIC NEWTOWN

Part III

1775-1783

Historic Newtown, Part III, 1775-1783

On April 19, 1775, there was shed at Lexington, Massachusetts, the first blood in the War of the Revolution, a war which terminated in the separation of the American colonies from Great Britain, and in their change from this humble character and condition, to that of free and independent States.

Shortly after this battle, the citizens of Bucks County responded to the call of the Continental Congress, and 51 residents of Newtown formed themselves into a Company under the captaincy of Francis Murray. The following is the Roll of Newtown Company on August 21, 1775:

FRANCIS MURRAY, *Captain.*

ROBERT RAMSEY, *First Lieutenant.*

JOSEPH GRIFFITHS, *Second Lieutenant.*

JAMES ALLEN.

JOHN ATKINSON, JR.

JOHN BAILEY.

WILLIAM BATEMAN.

GEORGE HOPKINS BURDEN.

JOHN DALTON.

SMITH DAVIDS.

JOSEPH DYER.

JOHN EASTWICK.

JOHN GREGG.

FRANCIS HARRISON.

THOMAS HARVEY.

JAMES HUSTON.

PATRICK HUSTON.

THOMAS HUSTON.

ABRAHAM JOHNSTON.

GEORGE JOHNSTON.

JOHN JOHNSTON.

PETER LEFFERTSON.

ABRAHAM LOWELL.

HENRY LOWELL.

THOMAS LOWRIE.

ARCHIBALD McCORKEL.

JAMES MCCOY.

ROBERT MCDOWELL.

CHARLES McLAUGHLIN.

ANDREW McMINN.

DAVID McMORRIS.

JOHN MOODY.

JOHN MURFITS.

WILLIAM MURFITS.

SOLOMON PARK.

JOHN PRICE.

JOHN RANDALL.

JOHN REEDER.

JOHN RONEY.

EMAN SCOTT.

JAMES SHIRKEY.

ABRAM STARK.

SAMUEL TALBERT.

ANTHONY TEATE.

NATHANIEL TWINING.

HENRY VANHORN.

JOHN VANHORN.

JOSHUA VANHORN.

CHRISTIAN VANHORNE.

ROBERT WATSON.

THOMAS YARDLEY.

Not all of the Newtown citizens, however, were military minded. The following list of 73 Non-Associators shows the names of those who refused to bear arms.

NON-ASSOCIATORS, NEWTOWN, PA., AUGUST 21, 1775

JOHN ASHBURN.	JOSEPH MARTINDELL.
DAVID BARTON.	STRICKLAND MARTINDELL.
JAMES BOYD.	PATRICK MCCALLA.
JOHN BOYD, at JOSEPH WORSTALL'S.	JAMES MCMORRIS.
JAMES BRIGGS.	AMOS MITCHELL.
JAMES BRIGGS, JR.	JOHN MITCHELL.
MOSES BRIGGS.	WILLIAM MORGAN.
WILLIAM BRIGGS.	HENRY MULLIN, living with DAVID
ABNER BUCKMAN.	TWINING.
BENJAMIN BUCKMAN.	JOSEPH NEEDER, with DAVID TWIN-
JACOB BUCKMAN.	ING.
JAMES BUCKMAN.	JOHN PASTE.
JOHN BUCKMAN, JR.	WILLIAM PATTON, at SAMUEL HILL-
JOSEPH BUCKMAN, JR.	BORN'S.
THOMAS BUCKMAN, JR.	ABRAM PENQUITE.
WILLIAM BUCKMAN, JR.	
GEORGE CAMPBELL.	GEORGE SPIRE, at THOS. YARDLEY'S.
SAMUEL CAREY.	DAVID STORY.
ASA CARY.	JOHN STORY.
SAMPSON CARY.	THOMAS STORY.
	DANIEL STRADLING.
SAMUEL DOAN.	JOSEPH STRADLING.
JOSEPH DUNN.	
RALPH DUNN.	JOHN TAYLOR.
	PETER TAYLOR.
HENRY ELBY.	STACEY TAYLOR.
	TIMOTHY TAYLOR.
SAMUEL HARVEY.	WILLIAM TAYLOR.
JESSE HICKS.	ROBERT THOMAS.
JOSEPH HICKS.	ROBERT THOMAS, JR.
ROBERT HILLBORN.	JAMES TOMLINSON.
SAMUEL HILLBORN.	JOHN TOMLINSON.
RICHARD HOVENDEN.	RICHARD TOMLINSON.
ANDREW HUNTER.	WILLIAM TOMLINSON.
	JOHN TOOL.
WILLIAM KING, doctor.	DAVID TWINING.
	JACOB TWINING.
DAVID LEE.	
WILLIAM LEVINS.	JOHN VANCE.
HENRY LEWIS.	JOSEPH VERNON.
MILES MARTINDALE.	JOSEPH WORSTALL.
JOHN MARTINDELL.	SAMUEL YARDLEY.

Newtown and vicinity seems to have been a hot bed of Toryism all through the Revolution. In the Fall of 1776 the

British Loyalists held an election at Newtown which very much excited the Council of Safety, and brought from them more or less of a reprimand upon Judge Wynkoop for permitting such an affair to be conducted. The inspectors of this election were: Will Minkham, John Story, James Shaw, and Thomas Smith. The clerks were: William Linton, Thomas Ross, and William Atkinson. William Biles dispersed the tickets, and John Windar, clerk of the court, issued the proclamation. The following letters* pertain to this election:

Bucks County, Neshamoney, October 2th, 1776.

To the Council of Safety, in Philadelphia.

Gentlemen,

Noe Doubt you have heard of an Election ben held yesterday by the torey party at Nuetown in this County, the Bearer, Captⁿ Sempell, I have sent to inform you of what he knows concerning the affair, as he was at the Election.

From yr most Obedt Hu'ble
Servt,

WILLIAM BAXTER, Lt. Colⁿ.

In Council of Safety, Philada, 3d Oct. 1776.

To Henry Wynkoop, Esq.

Sir,

We are Informed that some evil minded persons, disaffected to the present Government, have attempted to prevent its Establishment, by supporting the late Government under the Authority of the King of Great Britain, for w^{ch} purpose they have proceeded to an Election of Representatives under the said authority, in Contempt and defiance of the authority of the good people of this State. As such a Measure, if carried into Execution, cannot fail to defeat this virtuous Opposition to the Tyranny of the King of Great Britain, it behoves us to take Effectual Measures to punish such contumacious Offenders against this State. You are therefore desired to make enquiry concerning the Said Election, & of the persons who are principally concern'd therein, & communicate the same to this Board as soon as you conveniently can.

By order of the Council.

In the treasurer's reports for that year we find the sequel to this matter, in entries such as these, under dates of October 23rd, 24th, and 25th:

The Council of Pennsylvania directs Mr. Nesbit, the treasurer, to pay Major McMaster £6, and charge the same to the State for expenses concerning the Bucks County election; Capt. John Jameson, 8£, 15s 10 d., and Capt. Thos. Wier 6£ 0s. 4d., the expenses of their respective companies in going to Newtown to suppress the election there on October 1st and 2d, and to disperse the people.

The payments were made on the avouchment of Lieut. Col. William Baxter, who commanded the Second Battalion.

*Pennsylvania Archives, First Series, Vol. V, p. 31 and 32.

Because Newtown was the County Seat and conveniently situated between the opposing forces, it was frequently the rendezvous for exchange of prisoners of war. On December 8, 1776, Lewis Nicola, Town Major of Philadelphia, issued orders* for:

A corporal & 6 men to parade tomorrow morning, at 7 o'clock, under the court-house, to escort a party of English soldiers to Newtown in Bucks County.

The guard returned by the 16th, and Major Nicola issued an order requiring them to turn in their arms to him on the following morning.

When General Wilkinson came to Newtown from Philadelphia on the afternoon of December 25, 1776, he said that he was surprised to learn that Washington had transferred his quarters to Newtown. By transferring his quarters (not headquarters) to that place, Washington meant simply that he had sent his secretary to Newtown with his papers and other articles of value for a place of safety, or at least greater security than the farm house near Jericho mountain. It was not until after the battle and victory at Trenton the following day, December 26th, that Washington came to Newtown. The *Pennsylvania Journal* of 1781 says that after the battle, Washington with his army and prisoners recrossed the Delaware at the same ferry he had crossed on his march to Trenton on the morning of that day. The private soldiers were marched off immediately to Newtown. The 23 officers, however, remained in a chamber in the Ferry House where, according to their own account, they passed a miserable night. Next morning they were escorted to Newtown by Col. Weedon. At Newtown, the officers were quartered at inns and private houses; the soldiers in the Presbyterian Church and the jail. On December 27, 1776, an officer on Washington's staff wrote the following in his diary:

Here we are back in our camp with the prisoners and trophies. Washington is keeping his promise; the soldiers (Hessians) are in the Newtown meeting-house and other buildings. He has just given directions for tomorrow's dinner. All the captured Hessian officers are to dine with him. He bears the Hessians no malice, but says they have been sold by their Grand Duke to King George and sent to America, when if they could have their own way they would be peaceably living in their own country.

Apparently, however, only four of the Hessian officers actually had the pleasure of dining with Washington. The remainder being entertained by Lord Stirling at the House of

*Pennsylvania Archives, First Series, Vol. V, p. 96.

Amos Strickland, Sr., [Brick Hotel]. Concerning this event Lieut. Piel, one of the Hessians, wrote:

We had scarce seated ourselves, when a long dark meager looking man, whom we took for the parson of the place, stepped forth and held a discourse in German, setting forth the justice of the American side of the war. He told us he was born in Hanover, and said the King of England was nothing but the elector of Hanover. Lord Stirling seeing we were not much edified by the preacher, took us with him to visit General Washington. The latter received us very courteously, but as he could only speak English, we could not understand much of what he said. He invited four of our officers to dine with him, the rest dined with Lord Stirling.

When The Hessians were brought to Newtown they were greatly alarmed by a report, that was in some way raised among them, that the Americans killed and ate their prisoners. The panic would have become serious if it had not fortunately happened that a German was found in Northampton township who could talk to them and obtain their confidence. It is seen from the following letter written to the Council of Safety, by Clement Biddle, Deputy Quarter Master General, that the 1,000 Hessian privates were only in Newtown on the nights of the 26th and the 27th. They were sent to Philadelphia on the 28th where they arrived two days later.

Headquarters, Newtown.
December 28, 1776.

His Excellency, Gen. Washington has commanded me to send forward the prisoners taken at Trenton to pass through Philadelphia, to Lancaster, and I have sent them with a guard, under the conduct of Captain Murray (an officer of this state lately released from New York) with directions to furnish them provisions and quarters on the road. I have the pleasure to inform you the number of prisoners is near 1,000, that their arms, six brass field pieces, eight standards of colors, a number of swords, cartouch boxes, taken by the happy expedition are safely arrived at and near this place.

The Hessian officers were kept in Newtown until the 30th, when Washington left. On this date they were paroled, concerning which Biddle wrote to the Council:

Newtown,
December 30, 1776.

Enclosed is a copy of the parole signed by the Hessian officers who are forwarded by command of His Excellency, Gen. Washington to Philadelphia to be sent to Lancaster or such places as you direct.

The original of this Parole of Honor signed by 20 of the captive Hessian officers at Washington's Headquarters, Newtown, on December 30, 1776, is preserved among the Horatio Gates papers in the archives of the New York Historical Society, 170 Central Park West, New York City. By their permission the following verbatim copy of the same is hereby reproduced:

We the Subscribers Hessian Officers made prisoners of War by the American Army under Command of His Excellency General Washington at Trenton on the 26 Inst. being allowed our Liberty under such Restrictions as to place As may be from time to time appointed do give Our parole of Honour that we will remain at the place and within the limits appointed for us by his Excellency the General the Honorable Congress, Council of safety or Commissary of prisoners of War, peaceably behaving ourselves and by no way Send or give Intelligence to the British or Hessian Army or speak or do any thing disrespectfull or Ingurious to the American States while we remain Prisoners of war.

We will also restrain our Servants and Attendants Who are allowed to remain with us as far as in Our power to the same Conditions.

F. SCHEFFER, *lieutenant colonel.*

J. A. VON HANSTEIN, *major.*

A. C. STEDING, *captain.*

KELLER, *lieutenant.*

PIEL, *lieutenant.*

MOLLER, *lieutenant.*

GRAEBE, *ensign.*

VON ZENGEN HENDRICH.

VON HOBE, *ensign.*

DE BIESENRODT, *captain.*

DE LOEWENSTEIN, *captain.*

FOBEE, *lieutenant.*

F. FISCHER, *lieutenant of artillery.*

DE DRACK, *ensign.*

J. J. MALTHAUS, *major.*

BRUBACH, *captain.*

KINEN, *lieutenant.*

FLECK, *ensign.*

KLEINSCHMIT, *ensign.*

SCHROEDER, *ensign.*

Washington's Headquarters in Newtown were in a brown-stone house at the southwest corner of Sycamore Street and Washington Avenue then belonging to the widow Harris. It was in this house that Washington wrote his two letters* to Congress giving them the official report of the Battle of Trenton. This Headquarters House, the second on the site, was torn down in 1862, according to General W. W. H. Davis, and the present building constructed sometime during the Civil War by Alexander German. This present structure, the third on the site, is believed to have been built out of the stone of the Headquarters House, and to have been constructed along similar lines and on the same foundations as the older building.

John Harris, Esq., the husband of Hannah Harris, Washington's hostess, was born in 1717 and settled in Newtown as early as 1750. Seven years later, on May 5, 1757, Harris bought 53 acres of land from Benjamin Twining, tailor. This farm was part of the town lot patented to Thomas Rowland on Fourth Month 1, 1685, and by various conveyances passed to Stephen Twining, the first settler, who improved it and built the tan yard before alluded to. Benjamin Twining was the son of Nathaniel Twining, and grandson of the said Stephen Twining.

John Harris, storekeeper, had evidently rented the Twining farm before he bought it in 1757, as he was living on it at the time of purchase. He carried on farming, tanning, and store-keeping. The store was not in a part of the farm house, but some

*These were printed in the *Newtown Enterprise* on August 4 and 11, 1932.

distance back, along what is now known as the Swamp Road. In 1760, Harris was elected secretary of the Library Company, which he had helped to organize, and with which he later became prominently associated. In 1764, Harris was appointed Justice of the Peace, an office he held until his death nine years later. On September 21, 1767, he purchased from Nelson Jolly, grandson of Henry Nelson, deceased, a 61-acre farm that he called the Upper Farm, located on the west side of the Common, north of his first purchase. The Presbyterian Church stands on the southeast corner of his Upper Farm. Gradually Harris became a considerable land owner, owning over 500 acres in the county. About 257 acres lay in Newtown, and as much in Upper Makefield, part of which was bought from the trustees of the London Company and the remainder from the Manor of Highlands.

John Harris took an active part in the building of the Presbyterian Church in 1769, and was one of the principal managers and the ticket seller of the lottery by which the money was raised for construction of the same. He married Hannah Stewart, daughter of Charles Stewart, of Upper Makefield township, and they had seven children: John, Ann, Sarah, Elizabeth, Mary, Rachel, and Hannah. Harris died August 13, 1773,* aged 56; and was buried in the Newtown Presbyterian Graveyard. His widow continued to live at the homestead many years after his death. The slave census of 1780 shows that Hannah owned 11 slaves, three times as many as anyone else in the township. In 1787 she went to Kentucky to get her share of her brother William Stewart's estate. When and where she died is not known to the writer.

General Washington left Newtown on December 30th in advance of his troops, crossed the Delaware at McKonkey's Ferry, and marched with them to Trenton, where battle was given Lord Cornwallis on January 2, 1777; following up the advantage gained there, he routed the British at Princeton the next day, and sent them retreating across New Jersey. In the meanwhile Lord Stirling, who had accompanied Washington in his successful expedition against the Hessians, had taken a cold thereby, and was now laid up at Newtown with rheumatism. He was, however, placed in command of the post, and watched the fords of Bucks County. He was there for about two weeks, and from his correspondence it is learned that many prisoners captured at Princeton passed through Newtown enroute for Lancaster. Tradition has it that Lord Stirling made his headquarters in Justice's House, the brown-stone building at No. 107 south State

*Records of Presbyterian Church.

Street. The following letters* of his are supposed to have been written in this building:

Newtown, Jan^u 4th, 1777.

Sir,

I have not yet been able to learn the particulars of General Washingtons last Expedition into New Jersey. But he Certainly has gained some Considerable advantage, the 17th & 55th Regiments were completely routed near Prince Town, the 40th which was left in the Colledge 'tis probable were either taken prisoners or fled to Brunswick. Gen^l Washingtons army passed thro' Prince Town about nine o'clock A. M., and the Enemy's army arrived there about 2 o'clock P. M., from Trenton. Our people took about 20 Waggon loads of Baggage belonging to the latter, which must greatly distress them. I was Ill with the Rheumatism before our first expedition to Trentown, but the fatigue & hardships I endured for forty hours in the worst weather I ever saw—rendered me unfit for further duty in the field, Gen^l Washington therefore placed me here to do the best I could to secure the ferries & upper part of the Country against any Surprise or to pass above. I will do the best I can, with the few I have to Command.

Thomas Watson a man of very good Character, has made my heart bleed for him; he has refused the Continental Money for Hay Necessary for the Subsistence of our troops, I confined him, he is a good man by all account; I have relaced him, I have suffered him on his parol to go & abide with his family; 'till your further order I do not like to meddle with these Civil matters & for God Sake take them of my Shoulders.

I have a Number of prisoners from the Enemys Army pouring in upon me, (thank God) but tell me what I am to do with them, there is no Room for them here, I wish we may have as many more as will puzele you what to do with. this is the first line I have been able to scrawl since I passed the Delaware last.

Most respectfully, yours,

STIRLING.

New Town,
Jan. 6, 1777.

Chairman of the Council of Safety,
Philadelphia.

Sir,

The three persons whose Names are on foot hereof were brought to me as Deserters from our Army; by their own Confession they left it while in pursuit of the Enemy; they belong to the 3d Battalion of the Philadelphia Militia, and I send them to you in order that they may be made a proper example of to their fellow Citizens. I am your most Humble Servant.

STIRLING.

Deserters Names are

James Reynolds,
Patrick Marony,
Henry Bell.

P. S. Lieutenant Wilmot, of the British Light horse, is Just brot in wounded. I shall send him on to four lane End to morrow. There are a Number of prisoners of war here, & more Coming in. I should be glad to have your opinion where it will be best to send them.

New Town, Jany. 8th, 1777.

Robert Morris, Esq.

My dear Sir:

I have been very Ill at this place for some days past owing to what I suffered in our Expedition to Trenton on the 26 Decr. In a Letter I have Just received from General Stephen, dated at Trenton this morning, in which are the following words. "There is a report that General How intends to push towards Delaware, and for Philadelphia, with 7000 men, which he has made up from his different Posts to reinforce his army in the Jersey's, and in his turn will take no notice of General Washington being in his rear. This is said, my Lord, to be authentic Intelligence." If it should prove, our best chance is by vigilance to prevent their crossing the River, for I have no Troops with me except some trifling Guards of Militia. I have taken every precaution to keep the boats on this side, but if this severe weather continues the river will be Passable on the Ice in many places; it will, therefore, be necessary to Collect all the Troops we can, and have them ready to oppose the Passage of the River, or Join General Washington as occasion may require. I now write to Col. Weedon, who is at Philada^a to Collect all the recovered sick of the whole army from wherever they are. I am told there are some Maryland Troops on their way to Philada^a, and two Regiments of Virginia Troops at the Head of the Bay. I know not what orders any of them are under, But I think they had all be better ordered up as soon as Possible, wherefore, unless you know that Congress have destined them otherwise, I must request the favour of you to forward the Inclosed Letters to the Commanding Officers of all those Troops to come forward as soon as Possible, and to the Commissary of Provisions to provide properly for them. Be pleased also to Communicate this to the Council of Safety & Board of War.

I have the Honor to be, &.,

STIRLING.

In order to save I must request the favr of you to desire the board of war to direct the Commissarie to make the necessary Preparation of Provisions & ammunition. If any of them are in want of arms, I have some Hundreds—please to direct and forward the others.

On January 12, 1777, Capt. Henry Vanhorne made a return of his company of militia commanded by Col. Joseph Kirkbride, of Newtown, with the dates of their enlistment. This roll is as follows:

Henry Vanhorne, captain.....	Dec. 6, 1776
Robert Ramsey, 1st lieut.....	Dec. 6, 1776
Thomas Huston, 2d lieut.....	Dec. 6, 1776
Abram Johnson, ensign.....	Dec. 6, 1776
Andrew McMinn, sergeant	Dec. 6, 1776
John Vance, corporal.....	Dec. 6, 1776
Isaiah Vanhorn, drummer.....	Dec. 6, 1776
Joshua Vanhorn, private.....	Dec. 6, 1776
David Riddle, private.....	Dec. 6, 1776
Peter Leffertson, private.....	Dec. 6, 1776
John Johnson, private.....	Dec. 6, 1776
David McMorris, private.....	Dec. 14, 1776
John Price, private.....	Dec. 26, 1776

James Sharkey, private.....	Dec. 26, 1776
Archibald McCorkle, private.....	Dec. 26, 1776
Patrick Hunter, private.....	Dec. 26, 1776
Eman Scott, private.....	Dec. 26, 1776
Abram Slack, private.....	Dec. 26, 1776
Robert McDowell, private.....	Dec. 26, 1776
William Bateman, private.....	Jan. 3, 1777
Thomas Harper, private.....	Jan. 3, 1777
James Vanhorn, private.....	Jan. 3, 1777
James McMorris, private.....	Jan. 5, 1777
Robert Watson, private.....	Jan. 17, 1777

Newtown, after these incidents, so far as is known, lapsed into a quiescent state, but the correspondence shows that during the following summer of 1777, the militia was making considerable preparations for marching and for collecting blankets and other equipment. In this connection, Col. Joseph Kirkbride wrote* on May 18, 1777:

Our Quota of Blankits (which I expect is nearly rais'd and Lodg'd at Newtown) will amount to between 5 & £600.

Another letter† reads:

New Town, Bucks Co., 31th July, 1777.

Timothy Matlack, Esq.,
Secretary to Honorable the Executive Council,
Philadelphia.
Sir,

According to my directions from Colonel Kirkbride I have sent by Samuel Rees, Waggoner, One Hundred of the best & cleanest Blankets of those collected in our County, the remainder, about 200 shall send (this Morning) to Thomas Jink's Fulling, who says if the Weather continues Dry he will compleat them in a Week. At which time shall expect Orders for the delivery of them.

I am with real regard,

Sir, your Most Humble Servt,

JOHN BENEZET.

On Saturday morning, September 20, 1777, the wounded Marquis de Lafayette passed through Newtown enroute to Bethlehem. He was conveyed in the carriage of Henry Laurens, and had probably spent the previous night at Four Lanes' End, [Langhorne].

Notwithstanding the vigilance of the militia which encircled Philadelphia during the British occupation of the City, raiding parties of British and American Tories occasionally penetrated their lines. In one of these instances a troop of British Light

*Pennsylvania Archives, First Series, Vol. V, p. 342.

†Idem, p. 469.

Horse raided Jenks' Fulling Mill in Middletown township, and captured at Newtown Francis Murray, who had, according to Edward McMasters, secreted himself in an empty sugar hogshead in the cellar of his store at the southeast corner of State Street and Centre Avenue. The following letter† written by the colonel of Murray's regiment describes this raid:

Camp, Feby 21st, 1778.

His Excellency Thomas Wharton, Junr., Esqr.,
Lancaster.
Sir,

I am much concern'd to Inform your Excellency that an Express arrived in Camp yesterday afternoon, with the disagreeable news of a party of Light Horse belonging to the Enemy, consisting of about Forty, pushed up to Newtown, Bucks County, and took my Major, with a small party of men, Prisoners, and all the cloathing I had laid up there for my Regiment. My hopes of getting my Regiment genteelly and well cloathed this campagne are vanish'd, unless your Excellency & the Council will assist me in it, which I must Intreat in the strongest manner. I really hop'd sir, my own activity would have saved you this trouble, but 'tis my misfortune to find all my good intentions frustrated by this most unlucky blow. My poor fellows are in a most deplorable situation at present, scarcely a shirt to one of their Backs, & equally distress'd for the other necessarys; but they bear it patiently, and however they may suffer for the want, I must say, I would rather wait a few weeks untill I could get all their cloathing together.

I now send Mr. Howel 22 lb Thread; 57 Groce Coat, & 42 Groce Vest Buttons; 326½ yards Tow linin; 7 p'es Shalloon, & 4 p'es blue Broad cloth, Cont'g, 63½ yards (trimmings I was sending to New town for the Cloths); these things I must request he will make the best use of in his power for my men; they are sufficient for the trimming of 300 suits cloathes, which I could wish to be blue and red if possible, as I know White cannot now be obtained.

As I write Mr. Howel on the subject, I shall not trouble your Excellency farther, well knowing every exertion is now making use of by the Council to have their Troops well cloathed.

I am with great respect
and Esteem, your
Excellencys most
obed't hu'ble serv't,

WALTER STEWART,
Col. 13th P. Reg't.

New town is 24 miles from Philad'a, and the Militia are posted at Bustle Town, which makes this a most daring attempt on their side, and an unfortunate one on mine.

W. S.

General Washington himself was very much alarmed over this affair and wrote the following* from Valley Forge on February 23, 1778:

The insolence of the disaffected in Philadelph'a and Bucks Counties has arisen to a very alarming Height. They have seized and carried off a number of respectable inhabitants in those Counties, and such officers of

†Idem. Vol. VI, p. 285.

*Pennsylvania Archives, First Series, Vol. VI, p. 291.

the Army as fell in their way,† among others, Major Murray, of the 13th Pennsylvania Regiment, who was at Newtown with his family. What adds to the misfortune is, that they carried off near 2000 yds of Cloth which had been collected in the County, and was making up for the Regiment. In the last Paragraph of your letter you say that the Cloathing coming to Camp is for the 3^d, 6th, 9th, and 12th Regiments, as you expected that the 13th would be otherwise supplied. You probably had the Cloth in Newtown in View when you wrote, but that being lost, you will undoubtedly make proper provision for that Regiment.

The following item is taken from page 5 of the Account* of Joseph Kirkbride, lieutenant of Bucks County:

Paid for the pay and rations of a guard under the command of Capt. Thomas Huston, conducting British prisoners from Newtown to Philadelphia in 1778, and for a hire of a baggage waggon, April 8, 1779
 50£-14-0.

In 1778 when the Continental Army lay encamped at Valley Forge and the British occupied Philadelphia, a conference was held at Newtown to arrange a cartel for the exchange of prisoners of war. General Washington and Sir William Howe each appointed a commission for the purpose. The American Commissioners were: Col. William Grayson, Lieut. Col. Alexander Hamilton, Lieut. Col. Robert H. Harrison of Washington's staff, and Elias Boudinot, Esq. The British Commissioners were: Col. Charles O'Hara of the Cold Stream Guards, Col. Humphrey Stevens of the First Regiment of Foot, and Capt. Richard Fitzpatrick of the Third Regiment of Foot. Each Commission was attended by an escort of 12 Light Dragoons, the American troop being under command of Capt. Robert Smith of Baylor's Regiment.

The Commissioners met first at Germantown on March 31, 1778, but adjourned to Newtown on April 6th, and assembled at Strickland's Hotel [Brick Hotel]. They remained at Newtown until the 12th, but failed to come to an agreement. In a letter written by Col. Boudinot after the conference was over, he says of the British Commissioners:

We were very sociable, but had previously obtained the character of our opponents, and were convinced they depended much on out-drinking us. We knew that Col. Grayson was a match for them and therefore left all that part of the business to him. They sat down often while we were preparing to go, till they could scarcely sit upright. Just before sundown they were put on their horses and went for the city.

The robbery of the county treasurer at Newtown by the

†Lieut. Henry Marsits and Ensign Joseph Cox were two of the others captured. [E. R. B.]
 *Published at Philadelphia in 1785.

Doans and their confederates on the night of October 22, 1781, was one of the most exciting events of the day. John Hart, then treasurer, rented the house that is now in the possession of George W. Brown. Early that evening Moses Doan rode through the town to see if the situation was favorable, and about ten o'clock the house of the treasurer was surrounded, and Mr. Hart made prisoner. While sentinels kept watch outside and over the treasurer, others of the gang ransacked his house. Then, obtaining the keys of the treasurer's office, and one of them putting on Mr. Hart's hat and carrying his lighted lantern, as was his wont, the robbers went to the office, where they stole all the public money to be found. They got, in all 735£, 17s and 19½ d. in specie, and £1,307 in paper. That night they divided the spoils at the Wrightstown school house, which stood at the top of the hill and across the Durham Road from the Meeting House.

In the Fall of 1781, apprehension was felt that the movements of the enemy at Staten Island threatened another invasion of Pennsylvania. An alarm was sent out September 11th and 12th to all County Lieutenants to prepare at once to assemble their militia at Newtown. On the 28th the orders came to rendezvous at that point "with the utmost expedition." The Light Horse of Lancaster County; three companies, armed and unarmed, from Berks County; a troop of horse from Cumberland county; two companies from Philadelphia County; and some militia, together with the men of Chester and Bucks counties, turned out and were all encamped at Newtown on October 1, under the command of General Lacey.

When Newtown folk saw the hungry legions gathering, they must have felt some serious misgivings, probably lessons from past experience, to have caused William McCalla, the commissioner of purchases for Bucks county, to write the Council at Philadelphia in this strain:

General Lacey and the Commissary of Issues at the Post of Newtown are Calling for Meat and other Supplies for the use of that Post and it is not in my Power to Supply them Without I be furnished with money as the People are Determined Not to Sell at Trust.

Fortunately the enemy failed to materialize, so the big scare was soon over. General Lacey on October 16th paid off the troops, and dismissed them after thanking them for mobilizing so quickly. An amusing incident in connection with the disbandment of the post at Newtown, was the meeting of the company of Col. MacVeagh's Philadelphia County Battalion. The day following their discharge, Capt. Bushkirk with Ensign Strine at

the head of his company, marching to the tune of "The Rogues' March," proceeded to the quarters of Commissary General Crispin and demanded that each officer's canteen be filled with whiskey for use on the way home. On being refused, they threatened to blow up the powder magazine*. While the Commissary was defending it, Col. MacVeagh appeared upon the scene, paid the price of the rum out of his own pocket, and sent the men away rejoicing. Crispin demanded of General Lacey a courtmartial of these men, and referred him for witnesses to Capt. Craige, foragemaster; Lieut. Taylor, of the Light Horse of Bucks County; and Samuel Davis, quartermaster.

On July 24, 1782, the Council of Safety ordered that Col. Joseph Hart, Lieutenant of Bucks County, be directed to order out 50 men from the county militia to guard the jail at Newtown. In 1790, the Federal Government conducted the first census of the United States. At that time the population of the Bucks County jail was very small, there being only five inmates; namely, four men and one woman.

*This was the aforementioned county record office, built prior to 1772.

HISTORIC NEWTOWN

Part IV

1783-1813

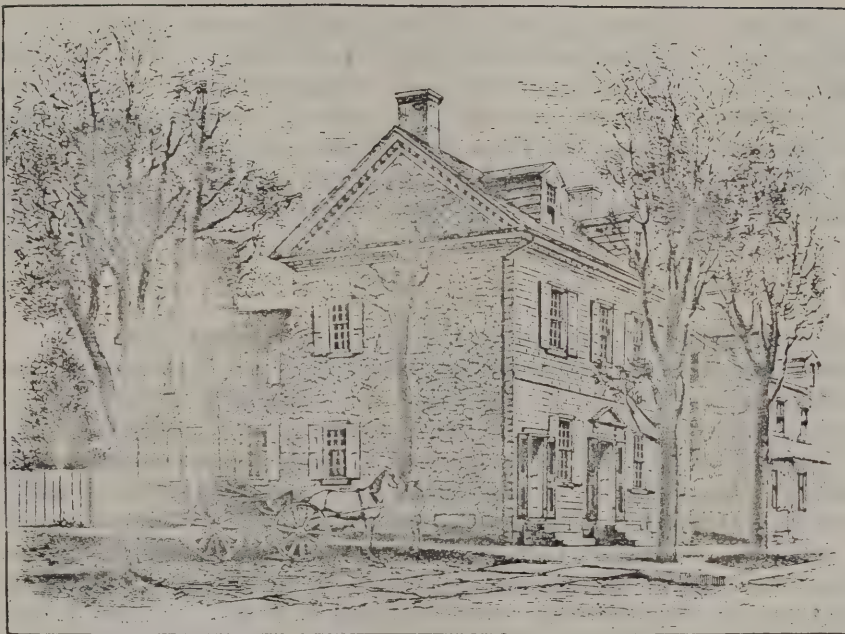
Historic Newtown, Part IV, 1783-1813

CENSUS OF NEWTOWN TOWNSHIP FOR 1784*

Head of Family	Number of Acres	Dwelling Houses	Out Houses	White Inhabitants	Black Inhabitants
Wm. Ashburne	30	1	1	6	
John Atkinson	2	1	2	7	
John Ballance				3	
Catharine Boyd	$\frac{1}{4}$	1		1	
James Boyd	$23\frac{1}{2}$	1			
Janet Boyd		1		4	
James Briggs	130	1	2	10	
Abner Buckman				6	
David Buckman	94	1	2	9	
David Buckman		1	2	7	
Jacob Buckman	100	1	1	6	
James Buckman		1	1	4	
Jos. Buckman	105	1	2	8	
Thomas Buckman	235	1	1	5	2
Thomas Buckman, Jun.,		1	1	6	
Wm. Buckman	279	1	2	8	
Samuel Budgon		1		4	
John Burrows				2	
Nathanel Burrows		1	1	2	
Geo. Campbell	1	1	2	7	
Samson Carry	225	1	1	8	
Asa Cary		1		5	
Joshua Cary	58				
Samuel Cary	190	1	1	7	1
Simon Collins		1	2	5	
John Dorson		1		3	
Elizabeth Drake	12	1	1	5	
Jos. Dunn	230	1	2	9	
Henry Elts		1		6	
Newland Evelyn		1		5	
Negro Gabe					5
James Grigg		1		4	
Hannah Harrise	120	2	2	9	8
John Hart		1		7	
Abraham Hibbs	66	2	1	7	
Isaac Hicks	50				
Robert Hilborne	229	1	2	11	
Sam'l Hilborne	170	1		11	
Daniel Hunt	303				
Agnes Hunter		1		2	
And'w Hunter		1		7	
Patrick Hunter	1	2		8	
Thomas Jinny	139	1	2	8	
Abraham Johnson		1		3	

*Taken from Pennsylvania Archives, Third Series, Vol. XIII, p. 491.

John Johnson	13	1	2	9	
Francis Jones		1		4	
Wm. King				1	
Peter Lefferdson	100	1	1	7	
Daniel Lee	101	1	1	9	
Tho's Lewis	38	1		6	
Euclidus Longshore	24	1	1	11	
Robert Longshore		1	1	6	
Wm. Martindale	84	1	1	5	
Archabald McCorkle	1	1		5	
Alexander Miller		1		7	
Margaret Morgan	100	1	1		
Mathew Morgan		1		4	
Francis Murray	1	1		8	1
John Past	100	1	1	7	
John Pitnor		1	1	6	
Richard Plummer		1		3	
James Reed	1	1		3	
John Sample		1		4	
John Sanson		1		2	
Eman Scott	1	1	2	6	
Esabel Shirky	1	1		2	
Jane Smith		1		2	
John Story	234	1	3	7	1
Jos. Stradler	114	1	2	3	
Margaret Strickland	480	1	2	7	3
Barnet Taylor	220	1	2	11	
Hannah Taylor	25	1		3	
Peter Taylor	200				
Timothy Taylor	208	1	3	14	
John Thompson	100				
Hugh Thomson		1		2	
John Thornton	2	2		6	
Margaret Thornton	6	1	2	2	
Jos. Tombleson				4	
John Tool		1		9	
John Torbert	4	1	1	4	
Stephen Twing	194	1	2	10	
David Twining	341	1	2	9	1
Elizabeth Vanhorne	100	1	1	8	
Jemima Vanhorne	139	1	2	11	1
Jemima Vanhorne		1		2	
Sarah Vanhorne	120	1	2	4	
Peter Wesel				5	
Jos. Worstell	1	1	1	9	
Mary Yardly		1		1	
Sam'l Yardly	150	1	2	6	5
Thomas Yardly	250	1	3	8	
Total	6,245 $\frac{3}{4}$	84	76	497	28



Engraved for W. H. Jenks by W. T. Smedley, 1879.

HOME OF ROBERT SMOCK

House at southeast corner of Washington Avenue and State Street, built about 1790. For 17 years the home of Dr. Ralph Lee, for 29 years the home of Dr. Elias E. Smith, and for 43 years the home of Dr. Charles B. Smith

In 1784 after the close of the Revolutionary War, there was a great activity in all kinds of business in Newtown, as elsewhere, and considerable speculation in real estate. Margaret Thornton, proprietor of Court Inn, laid out 8 acres into building lots and streets. On June 15 of that year, she opened Congress Street from Penn to Washington Avenue; extended Centre Avenue to Congress; and widened Penn Street.

A public execution occurred in the jail yard at Newtown on July 23, 1785, when John McDonald was hung on the gallows "until dead." According to the Court records, this man, a farm hand for Laurence Kramer, of Tohicon, brutally murdered the latter's wife Catharine and infant son Peter, as Mrs. Kramer was attempting to defend her honor. Following this dastardly act, McDonald set fire to their house for the purpose of concealing his crime.

The two-story stone office and apartment house on the southeast corner of State Street and Washington Avenue, now owned by William R. Stuckert, Esq., was built by Robert Smock between 1789 and 1792. The land on which this building is located is part of a larger tract originally belonging to Shadrach Walley. In 1750, Amos Strickland, Sr., purchased at sheriff's sale the land from Joseph Walley, grandson of Shadrach. After the death of Amos, his daughter, Rachel (Strickland) Hapenny, sold the lot to Robert Smock for £27. On November 22, 1792, Smock conveyed the lot, together with the new brown-stone house lately erected, to Sarah Robinson for £1,000, who deeded it the next week to William Ewing. After owning it for three years, Ewing sold it to Francis Murray, who also kept it only three years. Christian Wertz, Jr., merchant, purchased it in 1798, and sold it to Enos Morris, attorney at law. After the latter's death, his administrators conveyed it to Isaac Yardley, of Solebury township, who sold it in the same year to Oliver H. Cadwallader. Sometime during this period a third story was added to the building. Five years later, in 1838, after purchasing the Brick Hotel, Cadwallader sold his house to Dr. Ralph Lee, who had been practicing medicine at Pineville since about 1829. Dr. Lee removed to this house in the year he bought it, and continued his practice there until his death on April 25, 1855. It is interesting to note that in the 96 years that have elapsed since Dr. Lee's ownership, this property has been continuously occupied by a physician, the present resident being Dr. Michael J. Hurley. In 1856, Dr. Lee's heirs conveyed the house and lot to Dr. Elias



Photograph by Morell Smith about 1906.

CHARLES BONSTALL SMITH, M.D.

Born November 26, 1864, Died December 11, 1927

*A life long resident, and for forty-three years the leading physician
of Newtown*

Ely Smith. Dr. Smith died January 20, 1884, aged 61. His son, the late Dr. Charles B. Smith, graduating from Medical College two months after his father's death, at the age of twenty, immediately took over his father's office and practice, and became eminently successful in the same.

The brown-stone building at No. 17 South State Street is a very old one; it is at present occupied by the bakery of William E. Jansch and is owned by Martin Siatkowski, shoemaker. The stone portion facing the street was erected by Eman Scott, saddler, sometime before 1792. The back portion may have been built before 1771. In 1792 Jonathan W. Candy, attorney at law, purchased this house and lot, and three years later sold it to Margaret Gordon, widow of Thomas Gordon. Their son Dr. John H. Gordon was one of the most zealous temperance advocates in the county in the 1840's. According to Josiah Smith, Dr. Gordon was influenced to the temperance cause by the tragic death of his father which occurred in the following manner:

Thomas, who lived near the Yardleyville Road, two miles east of Newtown, was a very intemperate man. On the day of his death, he started from home on horseback, very much intoxicated, to run his horse to Newtown. A tree stood in the middle of the road on the way. He was directing his attention to one side of the tree, and his horse to the other. The result was that he reeled over, and was killed by his head striking the tree.

According to an advertisement in the *Star of Freedom*, one of the early newspapers printed at Newtown, the property was sold by Dr. Gordon at the House of Asa Cary [Bird in Hand] on December 15, 1817. Tamar Worstall, before she became the second wife of Asa, lived in this house, evidently renting it from the Gordons. As often related in history, she baked pies and ginger cakes, and did a thriving business selling them on all public occasions. A large Dutch oven, enclosing a smaller one, was until recently still in this house; and now a century and a quarter later the building is again occupied by a bake shop. Tamar also accommodated a few boarders, as a side line. One of them, John Fox, then a law student studying under Enos Morris, became later in life Judge of the County Courts. After Tamar married Asa Cary, she sold her interest in the bakery at the stone house, and in 1817 bought the Old Frame House, which she named Bird in Hand, where she and Asa lived and did business for many years.

In 1846, William Kirk Carver came into possession of this brown-stone house. He was born in Buckingham township on May 27, 1816, the son of Joseph and Cynthia (Kirk) Carver. After clerking for Kinsey B. Tomlinson at Middle Store [Evan T.

Worthington's] for four years, in 1850, he bought out his employer, and associated with Benjamin Buckman, father of the late Mack Buckman, who became his partner for five years in the operation of the store now occupied by C. Harry Bunting. In 1855, Kirk sold his interest to J. T. Simpson. In 1876, Carver was joint owner of the Middle Store. Mr. Carver was postmaster in Newtown from 1859 to 1884. Since the death of William Kirk Carver this building has been occupied by numerous tenants.

The earliest road from Newtown to Delaware River at Yardley's Ferry, and from thence to Falls seems to have been via Frost Lane. It is interesting to know that of all the streets in Newtown, Frost Lane is the only one that has kept its name unchanged from the very beginning, over two centuries ago. The only exception to this was in 1860 when they tried to change it to Franklin Street, which name, most fortunately, did not stick.

It was not until 1794 that what is now known as the Yardley Road was surveyed. The original draft of the Newtown portion of this road describes it as being laid out 3 perches wide and beginning in the line of the Newtown Common at $1\frac{1}{2}$ perches north of the end of William Ewing's house [lately Dr. Smith's] for the middle of the road, thence extending south $83^{\circ} 15'$ east, 235 perches to the corner at what is now the eastern boundary of the Newtown Cemetery.

Common Lot No. 8 was sold by the Trustees to William Linton on November 7, 1796. Soon after the purchase of this lot, Linton, who was one of the Trustees himself, and Prothonotary from 1795 to 1800, built the handsome stone house which was converted a few years ago by the late William T. Wright into the Arcade Building. William Linton, the son of John and Elizabeth (Hayhurst) Linton, was born in 1742. He married first, in 1766, Sarah Penquite, daughter of Samuel Penquite, of Wrightstown township. He married secondly, in 1788, Mary Janney, daughter of Thomas Janney, of Newtown township. He married thirdly, Letitia Harvey, widow of Nathaniel Ellicott, of Buckingham township. His only children were two by his first wife; namely, John and Elizabeth.

William Linton died in 1802, and his widow continued to live in the mansion until her death on December 1, 1817, at which time the property was inherited by her step daughter, Elizabeth Linton, the wife of Joseph Buckman. Elizabeth sold the property in 1819 to Maria H. Wertz, who conveyed it to Dr. Reading Beatty in 1823. Dr. Beatty lived there until his death, bequeath-

ing it to his son, Dr. Charles C. Beatty. The latter sold it in 1832 to Joseph P. Morris, Jr., trustee for Anna Maria, wife of Morris Buckman. In 1842, after 23 years of outside ownership, this property came back into the Linton family, and after two transfers was conveyed to Joseph Briggs, latter, about 1866, he having at that time sold Court Inn to Martha I. Heyd, mother of Mrs. Fredericka H. Bryan.

Joseph's daughters, familiarly known as the Briggs Girls, lived in the State Street house until their death about 1900, after which it was conveyed to their nieces, the Hough Sisters. The last sister died in 1915, and the property was purchased by William T. Wright in November of the following year. While he spoiled the delightful quaintness of the property by the construction of a new building in front of it, nevertheless, he made it one of the most important business places of the borough, and it is now the hub of commercial Newtown. By the retention of the hall and beautiful stairway there is left an impression of what the ancient building was like in bygone days when it was the finest private residence in town.

The Trustees of Newtown Common on November 7, 1796, sold Common Lots No. 9 and No. 10 to James Michael Raguet, storekeeper. After his purchase Raguet built a new store out of his old wagon house on Lot No. 9, and constructed some sheds on Lot No. 10; and removed his goods from his brick store across the street. Raguet's son Henry succeeded him in business, but soon failed, and the property was sold to Jolly Longshore, who afterward became the shining star among the storekeepers of the county. The next important merchant of Middle Store, as Longshore named his place of business, was Kinsey B. Tomlinson, a very successful merchant. When he conducted the store, Tomlinson lived in the brick house to the north, now the residence of Mrs. J. A. Crewitt. Kinsey sold the property to William Kirk Carver and Griffith Williams, and bought the frame house and lot now owned by Mrs. Edward H. Buckman.

Who James Raguet's first wife was is not known; his second marriage was to Ann, the daughter of Judge Henry and Ann (Knipers) Wynkoop, on August 17, 1790. James and Ann had 4 children: Susanna,* Claudine, Henry, and James, Jr. Claudine, baptized April 8, 1794, married Silas Vansant, and they were the grandparents of the late Mrs. E. R. Sitt, of Norfolk, Va. Henry Raguet, born February 10, 1796, removed to Cincinnati, O., after

*Baptized June 5, 1792 (Records of Presbyterian Church).

his failure in Newtown. Here he was a successful merchant for several years. In 1832, he went to Texas, and saw action all through the Mexican War. Henry died at Marshall, Texas, on December 1, 1877, leaving a widow and several children.

On June 17, 1817, James Raguet, Esq., took to himself a third wife, Miss Mary Harbeson. They were married in Philadelphia by Rev. J. J. Janeway, and the marriage reported in the *Star of Freedom* of the June 25th following. Raguet died on February 9, 1818, aged 62, and was buried in the Presbyterian Graveyard. The following death notice is taken from the *Star of Freedom* under date of February 18, 1818:

In Philadelphia, on Monday evening, the 9th inst., James Raguet, Esq., of this town. The deceased left home in health on Sunday—and but a moment before his death entered the store of an acquaintance, and had scarcely passed the usual salutation, when he fell and expired! This sudden and unexpected dispensation of Providence, while it has shrouded in sorrow a large circle of friends and connexions, is a solemn warning to all.

On April 1, 1819, Jonathan Wynkoop and Dr. Reading Beatty, Raguet's administrators, sold his Common Lots Nos. 9 and 10 to Dr. Phineas Jenks for \$950, who the same day conveyed them to Dr. Reading Beatty.

The brown-stone building of the Bucks County Academy was erected in 1798. The first heads of this boarding school were Rev. George Burroughs, principal, and Rev. Joseph Rogers, associate principal. It is said that the Academy was the first school of high grade established in Bucks County, and the ninth in the State.* The Rev. James Boyd was the principal teacher until 1811; others that followed were Rev. Alexander Boyd, Nathaniel Furman, Doak, Fleming, Trimble, McKinney, M. B. Keyser, Lemuel H. Parsons, Dr. James Bronson, and Josiah Scott. Elizabeth Roberts was teaching the infant class there in 1834.

The Academy surrendered its charter in 1852, and the building was bought by Robert D. Morris who conveyed it in 1855 to the Presbyterian Church, which built the annex that was used for parochial and sabbath school purposes for 31 years.

Names of other principals between 1854 and 1864 are: Ephraim Hinds, Dr. George Burroughs, Rev. Joseph Rogers, Miss Mary E. Bartlett, Prof. Schaffer, and Prof. Bachellor. From 1868 to 1871 Eugene Smith was principal of the Academy with Miss Susan A. Mitchell, assistant. Following Mr. Smith came Prof. Richard L. Gurnee, who left about 1880 or 1882, when Miss Mitchell conducted the school for some time. She was followed by Prof. Seymore in about 1885, who left in the middle of the

*Davis' *History of Bucks County*, 2nd ed., Vol. I, p. 216.

term, which was finished by Miss Mame Wylie. In 1886 the Academy closed its doors, and its service for school purposes was forever discontinued. The building was then sold to J. Pemberton Hutchinson. It is now owned by the First National Bank & Trust Company.

The brown-stone mansion at No. 212 South State Street, lately belonging to Dr. George T. Heston, was built in 1798. The first resident on the site was Peter Yeates, son of James Yeates, Sr., who carried on blacksmithing at this spot for many years. John Atkinson, Jr., blacksmith, was living on the property at the time he bought it from Peter Yeates. Atkinson continued working in the old shop at the business of blacksmith and gunsmith until the close of the Revolution. The place was in full view of the residence of John Hart, county treasurer, and Atkinson was a sort of a spy on Hart's movements. Because he could see the county collectors who came to Hart's house, he kept the Doans well posted on all their movements. He also repaired their pistols and guns, and after the robbery received a small share of the stolen money. Atkinson and his wife had both been members of Wrightstown Meeting, but their character was bad and they were turned out. Atkinson was not present at the robbery, because he was so well known his presence would increase the danger of detection; but he knew of their intentions, and was more useful to the outlaws as a watchman than for any active business in their work.

The Atkinson blacksmith shop and lot was sold by Daniel Dean, sheriff, on June 16, 1784, to William Cooper, of Northampton. Then William Cooper, on November 2, 1790, sold the said property to Aaron Phillips, of Newtown, blacksmith. Aaron, according to his son Samuel, who lived on the farm on Washington Avenue, west of John Barnsley's, tore down the old log house and blacksmith shop in 1798, and erected the two-story brown-stone house on the site.

In 1683 William Penn issued an order to establish a weekly postal service in Bucks county, and requested Phineas Pemberton to carefully publish full information concerning it "on the Meeting House door and other public places." All through the colonial period, letters were transmitted by private carriers, and it was not until Benjamin Franklin became Postmaster General that the government took control of this service. The Post Office in Newtown is one of the oldest in Bucks county, being only ten years younger than the one at Bristol, and four years younger than the ones at Morrisville and at Plumstead.



Photograph owned by Anna W. Smith; taken about 1868.

VIEW LOOKING EAST ON STATE STREET, SOUTH OF TEMPERANCE HOUSE ALLEY
Showing Major Roberts' Tin Shop, and R. C. Nagel's Drug Store and House

The location of Newtown's first Post Office was in the Bird in Hand Tavern, where it was formally opened for business on July 1, 1800, with Jacob Kessler, innkeeper, the Postmaster. He was succeeded by Asa Cary whose wife later bought the tavern. About 1816, the Post Office was moved up State Street to the store of James Raguet, now the jewelry store of C. Harry Bunting. Following Raguet's administration, Cary received a second appointment, and the office removed back again to the Bird in Hand. About 1836, the Post Office was removed to the newly enlarged Brick Hotel, where Joseph O. Archambault assumed the Postmastership. The fourth removal occurred about 1842 to the drug store of Rudolph C. Nagel*, the site of which is now occupied by the upper half of the store and apartment building owned by Savidge Brothers. In 1850, T. M. Anderson was Postmaster, and in 1859 the office was again removed, this time to the Middle Store kept by William Kirk Carver. Mr. Carver fulfilled the duties until 1884. In 1888, Cyrus T. Hillborn was appointed, and the office removed to the grocery store that is now owned by Calvin Tomlinson. Subsequently the office has been filled in the order named, by Dr. John S. Bryan, Anna Hough, Fredericka H. Bryan, William Kirk Carver, Mr. Groff, George Cunningham Worstall, George W. De Coursey, John Mitchell, William S. Tomlinson, and George A. Hill.

Early in the 1800's there were two daily stage lines between Easton and Philadelphia. These stages ran over the Durham Road until the River Road was opened in 1816, and then along that road until the Delaware Division Canal was commenced, when they changed back to the Durham Road until the canal was finished. When the Belvidere Railroad was opened to the public in 1854, the stages to Easton were taken off completely. At the session of Congress in 1805, a weekly post stage was established from Bristol to Quakertown via Newtown. In the spring of 1828 John Bessonett, James Hacket & Co. carried passengers and mail from Philadelphia to Bristol by steamboat, where they took stagecoaches to Easton via Newtown, Lumberville, Point Pleasant and Erwinna. The *Newtown Journal and Working-men's Advocate* of Tuesday, October 25, 1842, has the following interesting account of a runaway to the stage coach:

ACCIDENT

On Friday last, the horses attached to the Bristol stage, took fright at some object while standing at Mr. Hough's hotel, and commenced run-

*Rudolph C. Nagel, an old citizen of Newtown, a soldier and pensioner of the war of 1812, died on the morning of the 13th instant, in his 81st year. Mr. Nagel was a native of Lancaster, and in 1814, in his 18th year, joined the army and served until the close of the war. (From *Bucks County Intelligencer* of November 15, 1876.)

ning down the street. They soon upset the stage, and left it behind, in a somewhat mutilated condition. We believe this is the second or third time it has been overturned this season. Fortunately, the stage was empty.

A man by the name of Lodge drove a stage between Newtown and Philadelphia in the 1850's. He lived in the brick house known as the Dr. Harris house, now La Rue Apartments. William Tomlinson owned and drove a large omnibus which, when filled in the inside, the overflow would climb to the roof. In later years he drove a stage called the "Cohocksink"; both of these ran between Newtown and Schenck's station, now Croydon. In the early morning hours, in the winter time, long before daylight, it was his custom to drive through the town with some one on the back steps of the stage blowing the bugle to notify the people that it was time for them to start on their 10-mile trip for the train. John Rittenhouse, a clerk in the drug store of Edward H. Smith and a member of the Newtown Brass Band, very frequently was the bugler and was considered a very fine one. An amusing story is told of Jesse Heston and Jesse Comfort, frequent passengers. One dark morning Jesse Heston was seated in the far corner of the very much over-crowded stage when some one put his head in the door and asked if Jesse Comfort was in there. Jesse Heston replied, "Jesse is here, but no comfort."

Other stage drivers in Newtown were Arc Hubbard, William Hubbard, Chilion W. Higgs, proprietor of the Temperance House, Frank Johnson, and Mathew Coogan. Abner Cornell was one of the last drivers. Jasper Hill, father of our present postmaster George A. Hill, was a very accommodating driver, and continued in this business until the Railroad was opened in 1878.

The old stage barn was located where John Buckman's large barn now stands on Washington Avenue at the bridge. There was also a stage barn at Bridgewater, along the Neshaminy near Schenck's station, and every day either Elias Morris or Andy Fetter, both well known Newtown characters, would go down to take care of the horses. As time passed on the Stagecoaches gradually disappeared to give place to our Railroad.

The brown-stone house at No. 149 North State Street, known as the Kennedy house, was built in 1801 by Andrew Quintin, a harness maker who emigrated from Ireland to Newtown in 1792. He moved into the store house at the southeast corner of State Street and Centre Avenue, now Edwin W. Jones' restaurant. Josiah Smith relates a story that one time when Quintin lived there he called his wife to the door to see Judge and Mrs. Wynkoop driving in from Northampton township in an ox cart. Andrew, being called from home soon afterward, left his young

wife alone, and not being able to return at the time expected, Mrs. Ferguson, wife of Josiah, proprietor of Court Inn, prevailed upon Mrs. Quintin to close her home and take quarters with her at the Inn. During her residence at Court Inn, their oldest son Thomas Quintin was born in 1793. Mary Jane, the wife of William Hurst of Newtown, was another child of Andrew Quintin. She said her father's harness shop was in the part of the Enos Morris house [Dr. Smith's], that was later the office of Scott and Wynkoop.

At another date Andrew lived in the house with Major Thomas Buckman, later the residence of Eli Buckman. In 1801, Andrew built the stone house north of Alfred Blaker's, and sold it to William Watts, prothonotary, eight years later, and removed to Falls township. William Watts sold his house to Thomas G. Kennedy, the son of James Kennedy. Thomas was born in 1784, and was a man of unusual ability, being one of the prominent citizens of Newtown a century ago. He acquired a good education and was a teacher at Porter's Academy [Lewis P. Satterthwaite's]. In 1807 he was Deputy Register of Wills, and in 1808, Prothonotary.* In 1815, he was elected to the two year term of County Sheriff. In 1828 Mr. Kennedy was superintendent of the construction of the Delaware Division of the Pennsylvania Canal.

Thomas G. Kennedy first married† Eliza Violetta Hicks, daughter of Squire Isaac Hicks, on October 4, 1807. She was born March 17, 1788, and was drowned in Newtown Creek on July 28, 1817. This was the first drowning accident recorded at Newtown. The following account of the affair is transcribed from the *Star of Freedom* of July 30, 1817:

DISTRESSING CASUALTY!

Was drowned, on Monday evening last, Mrs. Kennedy, wife of Thomas G. Kennedy, Esq. of this town. The circumstances attending her death were peculiarly distressing. One of her sons, about eight years of age, while amusing himself by floating on a board in the creek opposite the town, was overturned into the water,—attracted by his cries she rushed to his assistance, and almost immediately sunk in the stream. Mr. Kennedy instantly followed, and soon became exhausted by unsuccessful attempts to rescue them. He was snatched from instant death by the citizens, who had collected on the spot;—the child was saved;—in consequence of the depth of the water, (about twelve feet) a few minutes elapsed before the body of Mrs. Kennedy was found; the skill of several medical gentlemen was promptly applied in endeavors for its resuscitation, but without effect.

*For additional biography see Dr. B. F. Fackenthal's paper in *Proceedings of Bucks County Historical Society*, Vol. V, p. 436, and Warren S. Ely's excellent article in the same volume, p. 719.

†Records of Presbyterian Church.

Thomas G. Kennedy had by his first wife, three children: Augustine Willett,‡ who was saved from drowning, and who married and had one daughter; Frederick, who married and lived in Carlisle; and Edward, who became a doctor of medicine, and started the Female Seminary, the site of which is now occupied by White Hall Hotel.

Thomas G. Kennedy also left issue by his other two wives. He died in 1836 at Erwinna, Tinicum township, Bucks county. The house adjoining his to the south, No. 147 North State Street, was built by his sister, Miss Betsy Kennedy, a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church. Another sister married a Mr. Roberts, and they were the parents of Susan Roberts, the wife of Alfred Blaker, Esq. The Blakers lived in the Betsy Kennedy house.

The following is a list of the 154 taxable inhabitants of Newtown Township, as made by Benjamin Taylor, assessor, on November 20, 1807:

Oliver Aikin, laborer.

Samuel Aikin, weaver.

William Alberson, farmer.

George Anderson, laborer.

Joshua Balderson, farmer.

Elizabeth Barnsley, widow.

William Barnsley, farmer.

Jonathan Bartleson, farmer.

Jane Bartram, shopkeeper.

Abraham Black, innkeeper.

John Blaker, farmer.

Levi Bond, carpenter.

Thomas Bowder, farmer.

Amos Briggs, farmer.

Joseph Briggs, hatter.

Thomas Briggs, farmer.

John Brooks, tanner.

William Brooks, farmer.

Chapman Buckman, farmer.

Isaac Buckman, farmer.

James Buckman, farmer.

Jesse Buckman, farmer.

John Buckman, farmer.

John Buckman, Jr., farmer.

Phineas Buckman, farmer.

Stacy Buckman, farmer.

Thomas Buckman, farmer.

Nathaniel Burroughs, dep. sheriff.

Asa Cary, tailor.

Joseph Cary, farmer.

Joshua Cary, farmer.

Samuel Cary, farmer.

Silas Cary, farmer.

Abraham Chapman, attorney.

William Cole, printer.

John Davis, blacksmith.

Samuel Davis, blacksmith.

Joseph Dawson, laborer.

John Duwise, laborer.

John Else, laborer.

George Ely, farmer.

William Ely, farmer.

Francis Erwin, mason.

John Erwin, mason.

Oliver Erwin, mason.

Jonathan Fell, farmer.

Joseph Fell, innkeeper.

Christopher Flanigan, shopkeeper.

Andrew Gilkyson, dep. prothonotary.

Margaret Gordon, widow.

James Gregg, shoemaker.

William Hart, register.

David Harvey, farmer.

Robert Harvey, farmer.

Charles Hattenfield, miller.

‡Baptized August 18, 1809, at the Presbyterian Church.

Samuel Heath, innkeeper.
 David Heaton, laborer.
 John Hibbs, shoemaker.
 Isaac Hicks, surveyor.
 Joseph Hicks, carpenter.
 Robert Hillborn, farmer.
 Thomas Hillborn, farmer.
 Charles Hinkle, innkeeper.
 Elizabeth Hopkins, widow.
 John Hudson, butcher.
 Benajmin Hunter, laborer.
 Patrick Hunter, jailor.

Jacob Janney, farmer.
 Phineas Jenks, physician.
 David Johnson, shoemaker.

John Kelley, carpenter.
 John Kelley, silversmith.
 Moses Kelly, esquire.
 Thomas G. Kennedy, dep. register.
 Jacob Kessler, innkeeper.
 Philip Keyser, weaver.
 William Krewson, shoemaker.

John Lee, laborer.
 Jesse Leedom, farmer.
 Joseph Limehouse, farmer.
 John Linton, farmer.
 Letitia Linton, widow.
 Abraham Longshore, wheelwright.

Isaac Martindale, farmer.
 Strickland Martindale, tailor.
 William Martindale, farmer.
 Archibald McCorkle, shoemaker.
 William McGrath, tailor.
 Andrew McMinn, schoolmaster.
 Alexander Moore, gentleman.
 Isaiah Morgan, farmer.
 Enos Morris, attorney.
 Mathias Morris, attorney.
 Barney Murphy, laborer.
 Francis Murray, judge.

William Parker, shoemaker.
 Rachel Paxson, widow.
 Aaron Pearson, laborer.
 Aaron Phillips, blacksmith.
 Jonathan Phillips, laborer.
 Thomas Phillips, mason.
 John Pitner, farmer.
 Mary Plummer, old maid.
 Thomas Porter, farmer.

Andrew Quintin, laborer.

James Raguet, shopkeeper.
 Jonathan Randall, farmer.
 Isaac Reeder, harness-maker.
 Israel Roberts, carpenter.
 Pearson Roberts, mason.
 Samuel Roberts, farmer.
 David Roney, laborer.
 John Roney, farmer.
 John Roney, Jr., farmer.
 Hugh Ross, attorney.
 Thomas Ross, prothonotary.
 Isaac Ryan, farmer.

Benjamin Schofield, farmer.
 Benjamin Smith, carpenter.
 Moses Smith, farmer.
 Willet Stoneman, laborer.
 David Story, farmer.
 Thomas Story, farmer.
 Joseph Stradling, farmer.
 Jacob Suber, farmer.
 Peter Swager, farmer.
 William Swinney, farmer.

Banner Taylor, gentleman.
 Benjamin Taylor, farmer.
 Bernard Taylor, farmer.
 Albenia Thomas, farmer.
 James Thompson, farmer.
 Christian Tucker, weaver.
 Beulah E. Twining, farmer.
 Elias Twining, farmer.
 Jacob Twining, farmer.
 Stephen Twining, farmer.

William Vanhart, shoemaker.
 Christopher Vanhorn, laborer.
 James Vanhorn, blacksmith.
 John Vanhorn, farmer.

Joseph Wildman, farmer.
 Joseph Willard, farmer.
 William Willard, farmer.
 John Winner, carpenter.
 Samuel Winner, weaver.
 James Worstall, farmer.
 Joseph Worstall, tanner & farmer.
 Joseph Worstall, Jr., tanner.

Amos Yardley, cooper.
 Enos Yardley, carpenter.
 Joseph Yardley, gentleman.
 Joshua Yardley, carpenter.
 Samuel T. Yardley, farmer.

Thomas Ross built in about 1810 the three-story brown-stone building on South State Street now belonging to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. It was constructed for a hotel, but when the county Offices were moved to Doylestown in 1813, hotel property greatly depreciated in value in Newtown, and it is doubtful if the house was ever used for that purpose. Siloam Lodge, No. 265, I. O. O. F., was instituted in 1847 in a room on the second floor of the frame building on Court Street that stands on the old Court House foundations. During the 87 years of its organization, there have been 509 members taken into the Lodge by initiation and cards.

The first Bucks County Agricultural Society was organized in Newtown in 1811. The call for the meeting to be held at the home of John Ruckman, in Solebury, was signed by Moses Eastburn, Aaron Eastburn, and John Ruckman. This organization was in existence ten or twelve years.

The second Bucks County Agricultural Society was organized in 1820. The early minutes of the society are lost, having probably been burned in the Spring of 1852 with the house of John Linton, two miles east of Newtown, on the Yardley Road. The meetings were all held in Newtown, and many of the active members lived within 2 miles of the place, while others came a distance of 14 miles. The object of the Society was to improve the blood of live stock. Agricultural implements were of the plain old style, and claimed little attention for several years. At a meeting on November 8, 1824, James Worth, president, occupied the chair. Enos Morris, Yardley Linton, Dr. Phineas Jenks, and J. W. Wynkoop were appointed to have the care of an exhibition. The committee on ploughing was Thomas Yardley, Michael H. Jenks, and J. P. Morris. The committee on improvement of husbandry was John Cox, John Leffert, and William Carr. At the exhibition held, much stock was exhibited, not only from Bucks County, but from other parts of the State as well.

The Society decided to pay Ann Hinkle \$1.00 for preparing the Court House for the meeting. At this meeting, John Linton read an essay on "The Works of Creation," and Enos Morris delivered an address on "Good High-Bred Stock." Those especially interested in such stock were James Worth, Aaron Feaster, and Jonathan Wynkoop. A constitution was presented and signed, the name adopted being The Agricultural Society of Bucks County.

In 1827, Samuel D. Ingham delivered an address in the old Court House to a large and respectable audience. In 1828, the Society met at the House of Joseph O. Archambault. The exhibi-

tion made a good display; it was Archambault's first year at the Brick, and the dinner prepared for the members was a credit to the new landlord. The Pomona brandy manufactured by Michael H. Jenks was placed on the table free and plenty, and appears to have acted like a charm. The brandy and the maker were warmly toasted. When the age of the brandy was given it was tasted again, and the more it was tasted, the older and better it became, while regret was expressed that a larger premium could not be given. It was remarked afterward that several of the members knew more about good brandy than they did about good ploughing.

In 1829, the following officers were elected: Aaron Feaster, president; John Linton, vice-president; Dr. J. H. Gordon, secretary; Chapman Buckman, treasurer; Michael H. Jenks, orator; and Dr. Phineas Jenks, librarian. At the next meeting, Dr. Jenks presented a strong temperance resolution. In 1829, the Society met in pursuance of adjournment, and discussed a proposition for a temporary suspension of the meetings. A meeting was called in 1832, and a committee appointed to collect the books and adjust the affairs of the Society, in order to close up the business. At a later meeting the same year the books were sold, and it was ordered that the proceeds be divided equally among the members, with the understanding that if any shares were not called for within ten days all money remaining in the hands of the committee was to be presented to the cause of temperance.

It was not until December 4, 1843, that again the Bucks County Agricultural Society was reorganized. Then the farmers of Bucks County convened at the Brick Hotel of Samuel Moore Hough. Dr. Phineas Jenks was called to the chair, and Edward M. Paxson of the *Newtown Journal* was appointed secretary. The chairman submitted a constitution for the regulation of business affairs, which was accepted, and the secretary was instructed to furnish the proceedings of the meeting to the papers of the county for publication.

At the February meeting in 1844 all present were received as members on giving their names, and complying with the rules laid down by the constitution. A committee of one from each township represented was appointed to report the names of suitable persons for officers of the society. This committee reported as follows: Hon. Samuel D. Ingham, president; Dr. Phineas Jenks, James C. Cornell, John K. Trego, and John Blackfan, vice-presidents; and Edward M. Paxson, secretary. It was decided to hold stated meetings four times a year, in October, January, April, and August. Dr. Phineas Jenks and Hon. Samuel D. Ingham delivered addresses at this meeting, both of which

were requested for publication. At a meeting held at Doylestown in April, a committee was appointed to ascertain and report the state of crops, cultivation of the soil, acres under cultivation in each township, and the aggregate quantity of each kind of produce raised on the farms in the townships represented. The committee was: Dr. Phineas Jenks, Joshua Dungan, and E. M. Paxson, Newtown; John Blackfan, Jonathan Ely, Esq., and Jonathan Ingham, Solebury; Samuel Buckman, and Josiah B. Smith, Upper Makefield; James C. Cornell, and Adrian Cornell, Northampton; John K. Trego, Thomas Warner, and Jesse P. Carver, Wrightstown; William F. Neely, Joseph Carver, and Samuel Tomlinson, Buckingham; and John S. Brown, Doylestown.

The constitution was divided into twelve sections the first article being: "The society shall be called The Bucks County Agricultural Society." Article 2 reads: "There shall be held annually a show or exhibition of cattle, sheep, and other animals, domestic manufactures, implements of husbandry, new and improved varieties of fruit, grain, roots and other productions." The other ten articles related to the business affairs of the organization.

The constitution was signed by: Phineas Jenks, S. D. Ingham, Jesse P. Carver, Thomas Warner, Joseph Carver, John Blackfan, Joshua Dungan, J. K. Trego, John Ingham, J. C. Cornell, Adrian Cornell, Moses Eastburn, Samuel Buckman, Jacob Eastburn, Samuel Tomlinson, E. M. Paxson, Garret Brown, John S. Brown, William Ryan, Jonas Ely, C. Waters, Samuel C. Cadwallader, David Hutchinson, M. D., Joseph B. Smith, Joseph Eastburn, Robert Simpson, Jonathan T. Watson, Timothy Atkinson, Jonathan Atkinson, Joseph Swartzlander, Simon Vanartsdalen, Jacob Twining, Jacob Edwards, Henry S. Cornell, Samuel H. Rice, William Janney, Chris. Vanartsdalen, Benjamin Hibbs, Mahlon Atkinson, John Murfit, Joseph Brown, Mathias Shaw, James Rice, Levi Buckman, William R. Beans, J. T. Schofield, John G. Michener, Samuel M. Hough, Timothy Pickering, John Lacey, Joseph D. Armitage, Alexander Cathers, Edmund S. Atkinson, Robert Ewer, George G. Maris, Abraham Paxson, William Twining, James Longshore, Phineas Kelly, William Watson, H. B. Ely, Joseph Broadhurst, Joseph T. Wilkison, John K. Torbert, Henry Wynkoop, Eli Carver, Isaiah Mitchener, Benjamin Thompson, Benjamin Wiggins, and Silas Twining; 70 men representing the leading families in an agricultural community.

The first of 29 annual exhibitions was held on Thursday, October 25, 1844, in the back yard of Hough's Hotel. The display of domestic animals was unusually fine; cattle being especially well represented. Credit was given for the laudable zeal of

certain persons, who spared no pains to make the exhibition useful and interesting. Horses were exhibited by Samuel H. Rice, very superior draft horses by Samuel B. Willett, Jacob Edwards, Andrew Smith, William Twining, and others; cattle by James C. Cornell, Joseph Fell, Adrian Cornell, and others. James M. Wilkinson exhibited a yoke of oxen four years old; C. Stryker Smith, a yoke of red oxen, six years old. Many agricultural products were shown by William R. Evans and Timothy Atkinson. From a grain of corn found in a bag of coffee, Robert Walker grew a stalk fifteen feet and eight inches high. Agricultural implements were shown by Garret Brown, and a patent washing machine exhibited by Garret Beal, of Newtown. A ploughing contest was held with these ploughmen contesting: Daniel Brass, Mahlon Tomlinson, Jonathan Smith, and Edmund S. Atkinson. There was no charge for admission and no premiums offered at this time. Live stock was the great feature of attraction.

The exhibition the following year, 1845, was of the same character as the first, and conducted by the same officers of the society. Garret Brown had taken a man named Eyre into partnership; A sign painted for the new firm, Brown & Eyre, by Edward Hicks was on exhibition and attracted much attention. At a meeting in 1846, James C. Cornell was authorized to procure a steel or copper plate engraved with a rural design to be attached to the certificates called diplomas, that might be thereafter awarded as premiums. Forty dollars were appropriated for it, and the design was engraved by one of the Ellis brothers.*

At the October exhibition of 1847, it is said there were several thousand in attendance; and the interest manifested was considered a highly favorable indication of the agricultural interests of the citizens of the community. At this meeting there was a modest display of domestic fabrics, flowers, silk quilts, blankets, coverlets, chintz quilts, and shirting muslin from S. G. Gove's factory at New Hope. The women exhibitors were May Ann Cornell, Margaret Carr, Mrs. James C. Cornell, Ellen Longshore, Elizabeth Buckman, Margery Lee, and Mrs. Samuel N. Rightly.

At the exhibition of 1849, there were 2,000 persons in attendance; receipts from admission, \$250; the men paid 12½ cents, women and children free. The fair was then held but one day.

At a meeting in 1850, it was decided to erect in Newtown a permanent building on ground belonging to the Society, for the display and protection of goods on exhibition. On October 1, 1850, the seventh annual exhibition was held at the corner of

*Rev. Charles G. Ellis, of Margaretville, N. Y., a grandson of the designer, owns one of the original "diplomas."

Chancellor Street and the road to Yardleyville, on ground belonging to the Society. At a meeting in 1851, women were for the first time appointed to serve on the committees to award premiums. On the committee on natural and artificial flowers, Mrs. Smith Buckman, Mrs. Joseph Harvey, Mrs. Charles Lombaert, Mrs. Wm. Carr, and Miss Rebecca Worthington were named with three men; on ladies work, Mrs. Jolly Balderston, Mrs. James Anderson, Mrs. David Cornell, Mrs. Howard Jenks, and Miss Mary Buckman were named.

The Society was incorporated by a decree of the Court of Common Pleas held in Doylestown on September 16, 1857. The exhibition ground on Washington Avenue was sold to Cyrus T. Hillborn in 1866, and 42 acres purchased of Howard Buckman on the turnpike below Newtown, to which the exhibition building was then removed. It proved to be an annual reunion of hundreds of people, young and old.

At the exhibition of 1870, the general director of affairs was Samuel T. Buckman. He was vice president, and assumed the duties of the late-lamented president, Adrian Cornell, in whose honor, during the exhibition, the flags of the society were displayed at half mast and crepe festooned on the principal gate and the front entrance to the building. It was said at this year's exhibition about 6,000 persons were inside the gates. Politicians gathered in crowds around the candidates for office just as they do in our own day. It was remarked that there were few places where more pretty and intelligent looking girls could be seen than at the Newtown Exhibition, and further to their credit, they were all well versed in household arts as well as in the knowledge of books and dress.

At these later exhibitions there was shown much fine blooded stock, and wonderful fruits. Isaac Eyre had 48 varieties of apples. In 1872 one of the novelties was the exhibition by Robert K. Tomlinson, of Upper Makefield, of 150 varieties of potatoes grown from seed, one of the results of experiments made on the State Experimental Farm. In 1872, the Society opened Chancellor Street to the Bridgetown Pike. There was a track for horse racing, and sheds for the protection of horses, but racing then was not the popular feature that it was later. At a meeting held in 1873, the opinion was that it was best to sell the entire real and personal estate of the Society, and the managers were instructed to take steps to dispose of it, altogether or in part, to the best advantage, whenever a satisfactory price could be obtained. It was finally agreed to sell the real estate at Willard's Hotel [Temperance House], on March 4th. This notice appeared in the *Newtown Enterprise* of February 22, 1873:

POSITIVE PUBLIC SALE

At the public house of Samuel Willard, March 8th, 1873, at 11 o'clock A. M., a great chance for speculation. The property contains 42 acres of choice land, handsomely situated. Improvements consist of main building, 40 by 80 feet, two stories high; about 60 sheds, in good repair; ticket office and all necessary pens, etc., belonging to the society; two superior wells of water with pumps therein. Altogether this property offers a rare chance either to keep for public or private use. Conditions easy, etc.

MOSES EASTBURN, *President.*

The building was sold at the time stated to John D. Baker for \$12,100, and by him sold to Owen W. Worstall in the same year for \$12,700. The old building stood until December 12, 1896; it then belonged to the Philadelphia, Newtown & New York Railroad. On the date named, it was burned to the ground, the fire supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

After the discontinuance of the annual exhibition, the Society continued to hold meetings, but at the annual meeting in 1883, the interest was only sufficient to raise \$10.51. During that year the Society adjourned sine-die, the balance in the treasury at the time being \$3.92. This small sum was donated to the Bucks County Historical Society. The presidents of the Society were:

Hon. Samuel D. Ingham, Solebury.....	1844—1849
James C. Cornell, Northampton.....	1849—1855
William Stavely, Solebury.....	1855—1861
Hector C. Ivins, Penns Manor.....	1861—1864
Adrian Cornell, Northampton.....	1864—1867
William Stavely, Solebury.....	1867—1870
Adrian Cornell, Northampton.....	1870—1871
Moses Eastburn, Solebury	1871—1874
Oliver H. Holcomb, Newtown.....	1874—1877
Isaac H. Hillborn, Newtown.....	1877—1879
Robert K. Tomlinson, Brownsburg....	1879—1882
Samuel C. Cadwallader, Dolington....	1882—1883

HISTORIC NEWTOWN

Part V

1813-1838

Historic Newtown, Part V, 1813-1838

An Act of the General Assembly passed February 28, 1810, provided for "The removal of the seat of Justice in the County of Bucks from Newtown to a more central place." The County Buildings were sold at Public Sale on January 15, 1813.

The last session of the Court held at Newtown was the Criminal Court term beginning March 1, 1813. On the January 19th preceding, a proclamation for the same was issued from Newtown by Samuel Sellers, sheriff, under the direction of Francis Murray and Robert Smith, associate judges.

The last business transacted in the County offices at Newtown was on Monday, May 10, 1813. The first Court held in Doylestown was the following day, May 11, 1813.

For over a century Newtown was the site of several wagon factories. Alexander Vanhorn was probably the pioneer in this industry near the opening of the last century. In 1882, at the Bucks County Bi-Centennial Exhibition, there was exhibited at Doylestown a coach made at Newtown in 1812 for Jonathan Heston. This coach was probably made by Vanhorn. His advertisement of coach making appears in the *Herald of Liberty*, a paper published at Newtown in 1815. The site of his shop on South State Street is now occupied by the brick building of the *Newtown Enterprise*. In the 1840's, this old building in which Vanhorn formerly made carriages was converted into a shingle factory by Chilion W. Higgs and Silas C. Bond*, and it was in a room on the second floor of this building that the Methodist Church was started. It is said that Vanhorn continued in business as late as 1851, but, if this is the case, it must have been at another location and operated by his son.

In 1852, J. Ely Woolsey came to Newtown, and revived the industry by converting the old frame building on State Street, north of the Brick Hotel, into a coach shop and making carriages therein. At the end of two years, he bought the property on the west side of State Street below Jefferson, and erected a new shop and enlarged his business, but was not, however, very successful. In 1857, Woolsey sold out to J. V. & W. Randall. They built the two frame houses south of the shop in 1860. These young men established a very respectable trade, which was continued until 1865, when James V. Randall bought out the interest of his brother.

*Son of Abraham, and grandson of Levi Bond.

The first ground purchased by Newtown Preparative Meeting of Friends, upon which the meeting house was subsequently erected and the graveyard fenced in, contained 2 acres and 85 perches. It was bought of Dr. Phineas Jenks on First Month 1, 1818, for \$460. The lot was part of a larger tract bought by said Jenks from Francis Murray in 1818, and by him conveyed to the following trustees appointed by the Meeting: Jacob Janney, Jesse Leedom, Joseph Briggs, Silas Cary, James Worstall, John Buckman, Jr., and Zephania Mahan. This lot was enlarged by another purchase in 1826, and a third purchase in 1862.

The history of Newtown Meeting has been a very interesting one, but will not be repeated here, because it has already appeared in an excellent little volume of 67 pages, printed by the *Newtown Enterprise* in 1915.*

The Newtown Reliance Company for the Detection and Apprehension of Horse Thieves and Other Villains was instituted in 1818. In 1840, Jonathan Wynkoop, treasurer of the Company, loaned \$80 to Newtown Borough, which was the first time Council ever borrowed money. The 26th annual meeting of the Reliance Company was held at S. M. Hough's [Brick Hotel] on February 3, 1844, when the following named gentlemen were duly elected officers for the ensuing year: Richard Janney, president; Jonathan T. Schofield, secretary; and Thomas Janney, treasurer. The directors appointed were: Garret Brown, Aaron Eastburn, Dr. John H. Gordon, Dr. David Hutchinson, William Ryan, and Amos Wilkinson. The Members at this time were:

Samuel B. Beattie.	Jolly Longshore.
Garret Brown.	Robert Longshore.
Levi Buckman.	Edward Nickleson.
Robert D. Cary.	William Palmer.
Silas Cary.	Samuel Johnson Paxson.
George Chapman.	Samuel Phillips.
George W. Cunningham.	Elisha Reeves.
Aaron Eastburn.	David Roberts.
Frederic R. Ellenger.	William Ryan.
Col. Elias Gilkeyson.	Jonathan T. Schofield.
Dr. John H. Gordon.	Samuel Story.
Lambert Hibbs.	Joseph Taylor.
Dr. David Hutchinson.	John Thompson.
John L. Janney.	Kinsey B. Tomlinson.
Richard Janney.	Amos Wilkinson.
Thomas Janney.	Joseph Worstall.
Mahlon K. Knowles.	Gerardus Wynkoop.
Mahlon B. Linton.	George Yardley, Esq.

*Papers Read Before the Centennial of Newtown Friends' Meeting, Fourth Month 10th, 1915, And Others Not Read There But Applicable Thereto.

In 1821, Edward Hicks built the stone house on Penn Street that is now the residence of his granddaughter, Sarah Worstall Hicks. This property, together with the new portion of the graveyard of the Quaker Meeting, consisted of 4 acres and 94 perches; and its title goes back to January 1, 1736, when Peter and Robert Yeates sold it to Samuel Cary, it being a part of the land formerly belonging to their father, James Yeates, Sr., deceased.

Isaac Worstall Hicks, son of Edward, built the brown-stone house on the northwest corner of Penn and Congress Streets, lately the residence of his granddaughter, Mrs. William E. Richardson. The foundation stone of this mansion, later known as Stonehurst, was laid June 28, 1833, and the building completed the following spring. Isaac W. Hicks shortly after the construction sold the property to Eliza and Rachel Leedom, who lived there until their death, when it was bought again by Isaac W. Hicks at public sale. At his death on March 28, 1898, it was devised to his son, the late Edward Penrose Hicks.

The predecessor of the Newtown Fire Association was the Winona Fire Company which was formed from the Washington Fire Company, an organization that is believed to have been founded as early as 1824. A few years later, an engine house was constructed on the north side of Centre Avenue immediately east of Newtown Creek. When the borough line was surveyed ten years later, it was found that half of the house stood in the township. The site of this house, which has long since been torn down, has been called for half a century, Island No. 10, and on it was later built, a little to the west, the frame dwelling now the home of Thomas Burns.

In as far as the writer has been able to determine, no records of the Washington Fire Company have been preserved. The following advertisement is taken from the *Newtown Journal and Working Men's Advocate* of July 2, 1844:

FIRE MEETING

The Engineers of the Washington Fire Co., of Newtown, are requested to meet at the Engine House on next Saturday, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and an especial meeting of the whole company will be held at Hough's Hotel in the evening at 8 o'clock. Punctual attendance is requested. By order of

JOHN BARNESLEY, Esq., Pres't.

On June 16, 1865,* the fire engine was turned over to the Borough by resolution of the Washington Fire Engine Company of Newtown, under condition that the Borough keep it in good

*From the Minutes of Newtown Council.

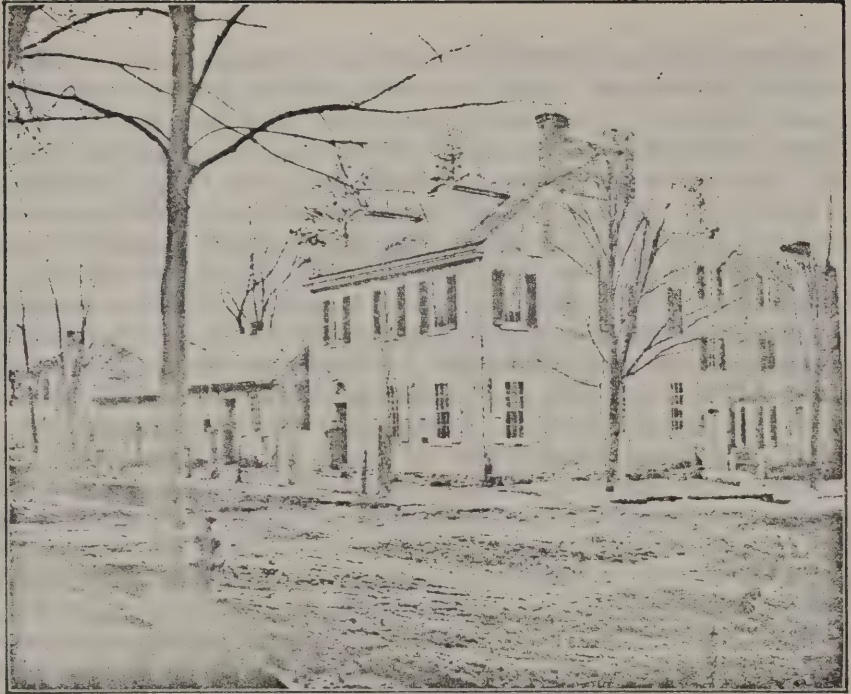
order, and use it at fires at Newtown and vicinity. The engine referred to was undoubtedly the one called Washington or old "Washy," which is still the cherished property of the firemen. This engine was one of four made in Philadelphia in 1796 by the celebrated Patrick Lyon; when it first came into possession of the Newtown firemen is unknown. In about 1870, a new engine, named the Winona, was purchased. This engine, unlike "Washy," drafted its own water; and cisterns were constructed at various places around the town to furnish the supply, because the water wells were too deep. However, the suction engine pumped with so much difficulty that the plan was abandoned, and soon after the formation of the present company, the engine was sold to Perkasio, and "Washy" returned to service alone.

Shortly after the purchase of the new engine, the Washington Fire Company changed its name to Winona Fire Company. In 1871, the officers of the latter named organization were: Smith Stradling, president; George Rowland, vice-president; Joseph T. Fenton, secretary; Joseph Firman, treasurer; Cyrus T. Hillborn, chief engineer; Henry Clark, captain; and James Roberts, assistant.

On October 29, 1889, following the disastrous fire of the Watson & Buckman Planing Mill, a meeting was held in Enterprise Hall with the object in view of forming a new fire company, and the present Association was the outcome thereof. At that time the apparatus consisted of two hand engines, the Winona and the old reliable "Washy," a four-wheel hose carriage and 400 feet of leather hose which had seen many years of service with the Fame Hose Company, Philadelphia; and 100 feet of two-inch leather hose and 57 buckets, but no ladders, axes, bars, or hooks. On September 16, 1901, the Association was incorporated, and in that year the Borough constructed the present fire house on Liberty Street.

Sometime before 1826, John Milnor, a stone mason living in Newtown, erected a dwelling house on Common Lot No. 31 facing Sycamore Street. In 1876, this house was owned and occupied by Thomas A. Lovett, carpet weaver. It is the property directly opposite the lane of the farm now belonging to Robert Kenderdine.

On July 4, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of American Independence, a civic and military celebration was held at Newtown. The troops were commanded by John Davis, then colonel of the



Photograph owned by Mrs. Horace G. Reeder; taken about 1865.

HOME OF DR. PHINEAS JENKS

House on southwest corner of Center Avenue and State Street, built by Dr. Jenks in 1828, and his residence until his death in 1851. Later owned by Cyrus T. Hillborn, who removed, in 1869, the old houses in the background and built on the site a brick store, which was destroyed by fire thirty years later

First Regiment of Bucks County Volunteers. The exercises were held in the Presbyterian Church, of which Rev. Boyd was pastor, and afterward a dinner was given at Hinkel's tavern, [Brick Hotel]. The company was quite large, and among those present was the Hon. Samuel D. Ingham. A band of 16 pieces was led by Aden G. Hibbs, later a prominent citizen of Ohio, and the only survivor of the organization at his death a half century later.

One of the important citizens of Newtown in the early part of the last century was Dr. Phineas Jenks, the son of Thomas Jenks, Jr., by his wife Rebecca Richardson. Phineas was a student of medicine under the famous Dr. Benjamin Rush, graduated in 1804, and practiced in Newtown and vicinity. Dr. Jenks was twice married; his first wife being Eliza,* daughter of General Francis Murray; and his second being Amelia, daughter of Governor Simon Snyder. In 1828, he purchased a lot on the southwest corner of Centre Avenue and State Street, and erected a stone mansion in which he lived until his death on August 6, 1851. In this house on October 9, 1829, was born the late George A. Jenks, Esq., and his twin brother, S. Snyder Jenks. The doors of this ancient structure were made of cherry boards cut from trees that stood on his farm in Middletown township, [later known as the James Tubb farm]. After his death, the property was conveyed for \$4,200 to Rev. Joseph J. Elsegood, his son-in-law. After four years it was sold to Joseph Eyre for \$4,000, and on March 27, 1867, it was conveyed for \$4975 to Cyrus Hillborn, who held title to the property for 39 years. On October 13, 1906, it was conveyed to Spencer B. Hibbs, and on October 25, 1909 Hibbs sold it to Rose, a real estate man. This fine, old mansion was little changed until it was rented by the American Stores Company, and completely altered inside and out.

The first temperance society in Bucks county was organized in Friends' Meeting House, Newtown, on September 25, 1828, under the name of the Bucks County Society for the Promotion of Temperance. Its object was to discourage the use of ardent spirits, except for medicine; and the members pledged themselves to abstain from its use entirely. The following persons signed the constitution, and may be considered as pioneers in the cause of temperance in Bucks county: Aaron Feaster, Jonathan Wynkoop, Dr. J. H. Gordon, Joseph Flowers, Joseph Brown, M. B. Linton, Isaac W. Hicks, Rev. J. P. Wilson, Dr. Phineas Jenks, John Lapsley, Joseph Briggs, David Taggart, Charles

*Married March 20, 1806. (Records of Presbyterian Church.)

Lombaert, Thomas Janney, O. P. Ely, Charles Swain, and Rev. R. B. Bellville. The officers chosen were: Aaron Feaster, president; Joseph Briggs, vice president; John Lapsley, corresponding secretary; Dr. J. H. Gordon, recording secretary; and Jonathan Wynkoop, treasurer. The first annual report was made in September, 1829. The last record in the books of the Bucks County Temperance Society was made April 29, 1874.

About 1830, Ann Buckman built a boarding school for girls at the northeast corner of Penn and Congress Streets. This was later the home of Isaac H. Hillborn, and is at present the residence of Wallace G. Murfit. Miss Buckman was succeeded by Susan Fell. In 1841 Sarah and Mary Taylor took over the school, but it seems to have been abandoned a few years later.

The house on the east side of North State Street, lately the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Chambers, was built by Enos Erwin in 1831, and for many years subsequent was the home of Samuel Torbert.

Cologne Mill along Newtown Creek at Barclay Street, now owned by Robert Craig and converted by him into apartments, was erected in 1831 by Chapman Buckman, who also built, four years later, the stone dwelling house in which the miller lived. This latter property is now called The Pines, from the row of trees along the front walk. The first mill on the site was erected over two centuries ago by James Yeates, Sr., and it probably represents the first organized industry in the township. In 1728, Yeates sold to Henry Nelson his mill and 13 acres of land, including the water-right of the race way to the dam, which was located on the Common a little north of the south boundary thereof. The breast work of the original Yeates dam was visible as late as a half-century ago, but today all traces have been removed by the freshets. Henry Nelson, by will dated April 11, 1744, left this mill property to his son Thomas. The latter sold it in 1750 to Jonas Preston, great grandfather of Isaac Eyre. Preston conveyed it three years later to Anthony Teate. Teate was a veteran of not only the Indian War but also the Revolutionary. He died April 4, 1781, aged 71 years, and is buried in the Newtown Presbyterian Graveyard.

On February 24, 1799, Teate deeded the property to Robert Thomas, miller, and David Twining, yeoman. That same year Thomas sold his undivided half interest to Twining. The latter,

by will dated October 25, 1791, devised the property to his daughter Sarah Hutchinson. The old Yeates mill was torn down in 1831, and the present mill erected on practically the same site. For nearly half a century, Frederic Ellinger operated the new mill, and lived at The Pines. Ellinger was born in Welzheim, Kingdom of Württemberg, on February 9, 1797. He died December 9, 1873, and is buried in the Methodist Graveyard with his wife Mary G., and their children.

The first attempt to start an Episcopal Church in Newtown was 66 years before the successful venture in 1832. In his *History of Bucks County*, General Davis wrote:

An effort was made to build an Episcopal church at Newtown as early as 1766. Thomas Barton, under date of November 10, that year, writes to the society for propagating the gospel in foreign parts: "At Newtown, in Bucks county, eight miles from Bristol, some members of the church of England, encouraged by the liberal and generous benefactions of some principal Quakers, are building an elegant brick church." Mr. Barton wants an itinerant sent to supply Bristol, Newtown and other places. The 22d of October 1768, William Smith enclosed a letter to the secretary, "from the church wardens of Bristol, and another congregation now building a church in Bucks county, about twenty-five miles from Philadelphia." He repeats Barton's story that they were much encouraged by the Friends, and adds that they are "desirous of seeing the church flourish from a fear of being overrun by Presbyterians."

The earliest document pertaining to the organization of St. Luke's P. E. Church is a small subscription book begun on June 4, 1832. The following recommendations written in this book succeeded in raising a subscription of \$1,341:

Philadelphia, Sept. 17, 1832.

Having confidence in the plan proposed by Dr. Jenks, that a Vestry will soon be elected at Newtown, I cheerfully recommend the erection of an Episcopal Church at that place to the patronage of the Episcopalians of the Diocese of Pennsylvania.

H. U. UNDERDONK,
Asst. Bp. Dioc. Penna.

I join in the above,

WM. WHITE.

The representations of Dr. Jenks convince me of the great importance to the cause of religion in the place referred to by the erection of the Church for which the subscription is made.

STEPHEN H. TYNG.

From the entries on the credit side of the treasurer's account, it is ascertained that the work of constructing the church was commenced in 1832, as that officer takes credit for building materials during the year. Also in that year, an agreement was made



Photograph by Harry C. Case.

COLOGNE GRIST MILL

View Looking East over the Barclay Street Bridge

for the purchase of the lot from James Phillips, but it was not until September 26, 1834 that the property was actually conveyed. This deed describes the lot as being the one "upon which a Brick Church called St. Luke's has been erected."

On May 11, 1836, the church was consecrated by Bishop Underdonk, who preached the sermon; and Rev. Greenberry W. Ridgley, the rector, who read the sentence of consecration and the lessons.

On Sunday last, the 11th inst., I consecrated St. Luke's Church, Newtown, Bucks County. A very neat and commodious edifice, the building of which, and the gathering of the respectable and numerous congregation worshipping in it, on ground where our worship and distinctive principles were recently almost unknown and within a space of two or three years, reflect the highest credit on the labors of the pastor, and of the perseverance of his originally few but determined lay adherents.

H. U. UNDERDONK.

On September 7, 1836, a charter under the great seal of Pennsylvania was issued to "The Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of Saint Luke's Church, in the County of Bucks." Those who signed it were: Phineas Jenks, Garret Brown, James Worth, R. C. Nagel, Daniel Y. Harman, Joseph C. Whitall, Daniel T. Jenks, Joseph O. Archambault, Thomas H. Buckman, Amos Vanzant, Thomas Heed, and Morris Buckman.

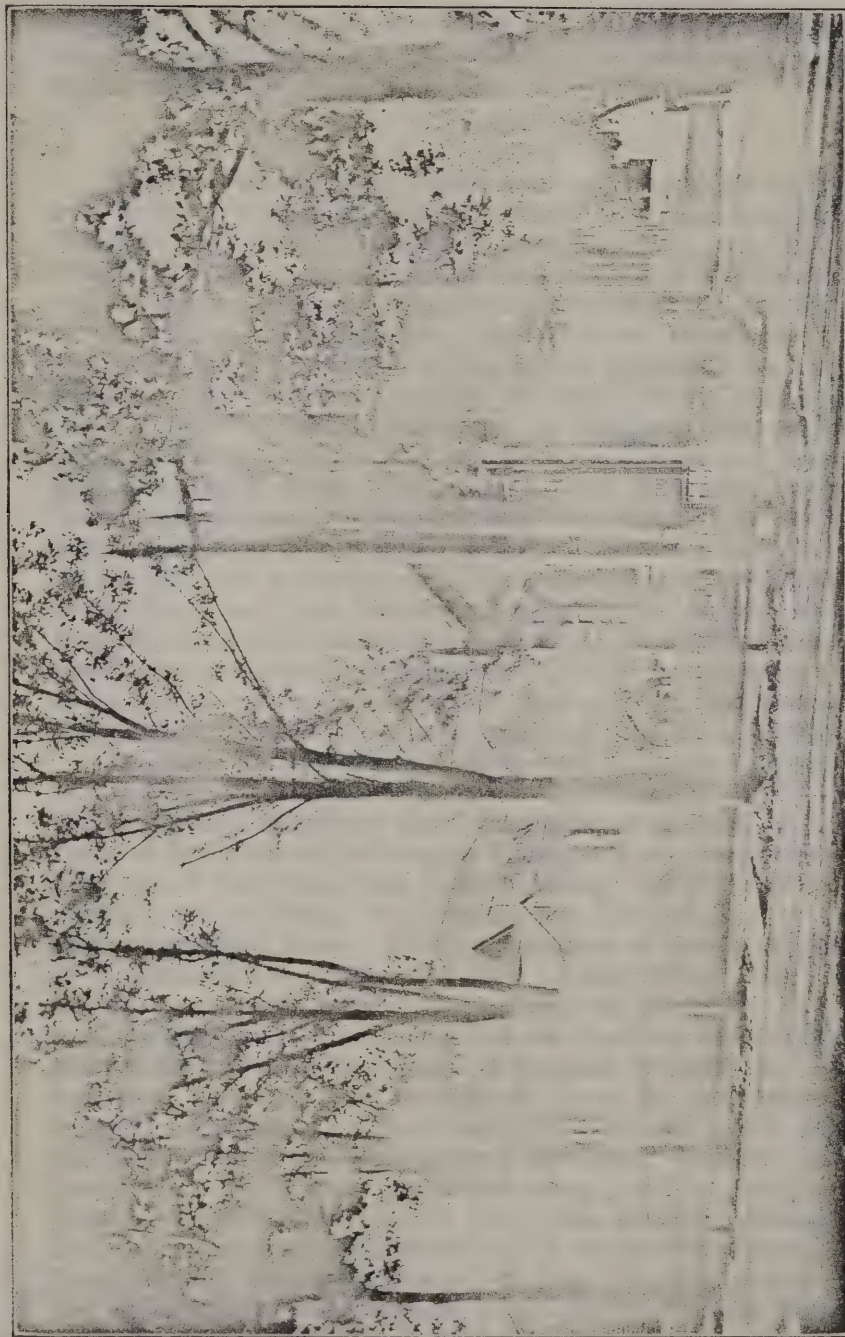
The following item is taken from the *Newtown Journal and Working Men's Advocate* of December 13, 1842:

A New Bell has been placed upon the Episcopal Church of this borough. Ah! we forgot—not exactly on the Church, but on a pole!

In 1855, during the rectorship of Rev. Wellington C. Webb, a frame tower was erected at the front of the church, and the bell removed therein. This tower was replaced in 1904 by the present brick structure. The Parish Building was erected in 1893, and the corner stone laid by Bishop Whitaker.

In 1836, the Pennsylvania Assembly chartered a railroad from Bristol to Newtown. This event caused a building boom in the town, and resulted in an increase in real estate prices, although the railroad never materialized. In that year there were many brick houses constructed, and there is no doubt that a local brick yard supplied the building material.

The three-story brick house formerly belonging to Dr. Henry Harris, now converted into La Rue Apartments, was built by Morris Buckman in 1836 for a railroad boarding house in anticipation of the coming event. Also in 1836, the large brick house later Thomas Janney's, now the residence of John Stanley Lee, was built by Hutchinson Buckman. The brick residence of



Photograph by W. E. Randall about 1893.

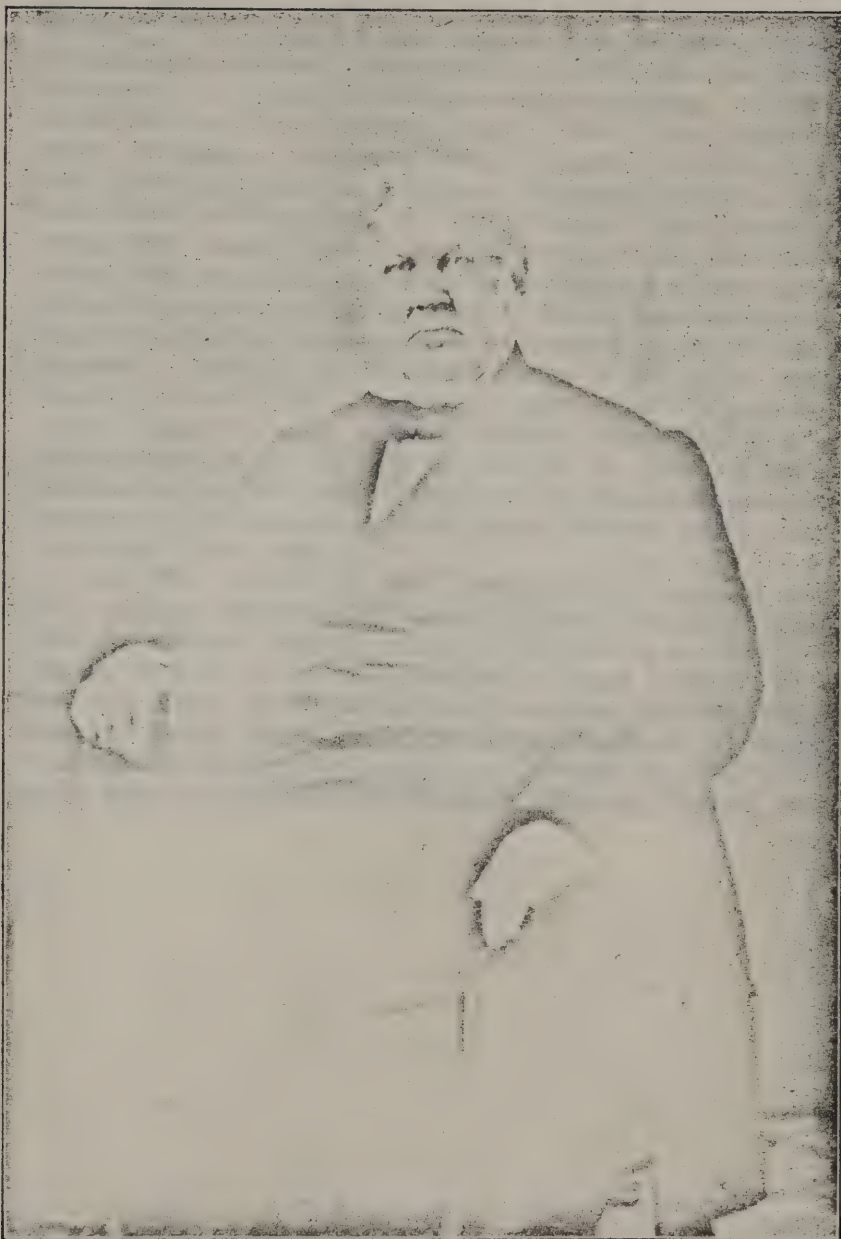
ST. LUKE'S P. E. CHURCH AND PARISH HOUSE, Showing Frame Tower Erected in 1855 and Razed in 1904

Howard H. Mahan, No. 103 North State Street; and likewise the west end and third story of the Brick Hotel were both constructed in the year 1836.

Michael Hutchinson Jenks, the only resident of Newtown ever to have been elected a member of Congress, was the son of William and Mary (Hutchinson) Jenks. He was born Fifth Month 21, 1795 in Lower Makefield township, at Stoneyhill, the temporary residence of his parents, located about one mile north of the village of Fallsington. His boyhood days were spent at the Bridgetown gristmill. At the age of seventeen he was sent to Pleasant Hill Boarding School, Byberry, which was taught by John Comly, a Quaker minister. In 1815, he went to live with his grandfather Joseph Jenks at Pomona Farm, now the country seat of Gage B. Ellis. On April 1, 1816, he took charge of all farming operations. From his own writings it appears he commenced by first laying down a code of laws for the government of his own life and conduct. The substance of these laws was: to be kind and just toward all employees; to live within the bounds of circumstances and to keep within moderation in business; to be punctual to promises and just in the payment of debts; to be industrious and economical, and to avoid bad company and dissipation; in short, to try to make of himself a useful citizen.

In 1820, his grandfather died, and he came into possession of the farm in the following year. On Third Month 14, 1821, he married Mary Ridgeway Earl, daughter of Michael and Rebecca Earl, of Springfield, Burlington County, N. J. He carried on the business of surveying and conveyancing, together with the management of his farm. In 1830, he was elected County Commissioner for three years. At the expiration of the term, the Board of Commissioners appointed him County Treasurer. In 1836, he was appointed Justice of the Peace by Governor Joseph Ritner. In that year he enlarged the old dwelling house built by his grandfather in 1776 to double its original dimensions. His office business, however, had become so large he determined to relinquish farming. In the spring of 1837, he sold out to Alexander H. Smith, of Philadelphia, and removed with his family to Newtown. On October 2nd of the same year, he purchased from Rachel, the widow of David Story, the dwelling house erected by the County Commissioners in 1796 for public offices. Here he lived during the remainder of his life. In 1838, Jenks received the appointment of Associate Judge of the County Courts. He took his seat on the bench in September of that year, and held the office five years.

In 1842, Judge Jenks was elected to Congress by the Whig



Photograph by Williams & Rowe, Newtown.
Original owned by E. R. B.

JUDGE MICHAEL HUTCHINSON JENKS

Party. In 1844, he was renominated as their candidate, but was defeated. He was a strong candidate, but the heavy Democratic vote in Lehigh County defeated him. After this defeat, he gave up politics and devoted his time to office business. His first wife, the mother of all his children, died in 1846. Their eight children were: William J., Rebecca Earl, Hannah, Anna Earl, Michael Earl, Mary Hutchinson, Jonathan Ridgeway (died in infancy), and Jonathan Ridgeway, II. His youngest surviving daughter, Anna Earl Jenks, known as "Pinkey," was a most attractive young lady and had, according to tradition, a number of suitors. At one time she decided in favor of Henry Lombaert, a dashing beau of Newtown, but her parents objected, so an elopement was planned. "Pinkey," in the dead hours of the night, was to descend a ladder into the arms of her lover. When the hour arrived, she, for some reason, decided otherwise; and left the disconsolate swain waiting in vain at the foot of the ladder. Anna afterwards became the wife of Alexander Ramsey, the first Governor of Minnesota, United States Senator, and a member of President Hayes' cabinet.

On First Month 20, 1848, Judge Jenks married, secondly, Mary Canby, daughter of Samuel Canby. On Sixth Month 26, 1851, he married, thirdly, Anne M. Higgins, a widow. On Sixth Month 26, 1856, he married, fourthly, Sarah Leedom, of Somerton, who lived, after her husband's decease, in the Lodge House, No. 114 South State Street, now the residence of Stephen M. Vandegrift. Judge Jenks died on October 16, 1867 in his 73rd year, and was buried in the Friends' Burying Ground, Newtown.

HISTORIC NEWTOWN

Part VI

1838-1865

Historic Newtown, Part VI, 1838-1865

Newtown Borough was incorporated on April 16, 1838 by an Act of Assembly entitled: "An act authorizing the Governor to incorporate the Bristol Steam Tow Boat and Transportation Company, and for other purposes." This original charter was amended by another act passed on March 4, 1842, entitled, "An act regulating election districts, and for other purposes."

The first election was held on May 21, 1838 at the house of Oliver H. Cadwallader [Brick Hotel] at which time Charles V. Craven was elected Chief Burgess. Charles W. Swain was chosen Assistant Burgess, and Owen Worstall, High Constable. The nine councilmen were: Dr. Phineas Jenks, Joshua Woolston, Joseph Schofield, John Tucker, Israel Kelley, Aaron Rose, Ebenezer Root, Robert Parker, and Edward Trego. The first meeting of the Council was held that same evening, and Dr. Jenks appointed president; Aaron Rose, secretary; Stokes L. Roberts, town clerk; Jesse S. Heston, treasurer; and Alexander Vanhorn, street commissioner.

Lincoln Avenue was laid out in the spring of 1874, and in 1885 the boundaries of Newtown Borough were extended.

In 1839, Jonathan Wynkoop erected the house at No. 119 North State Street. For several years it was the home of Kinsey B. Tomlinson, prominent storekeeper of Newtown and organizing president of The First National Bank and Trust Company. Later it was purchased by Lewis Buckman, and is now the residence of his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Alice Greer Buckman.

The Newtown Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1840. Before that date, however, public preaching services had been held in various places in the town; namely, in the second story of the shingle factory that stood on the site now occupied by the Enterprise building, in the Free Meeting House that stood on the site now occupied by Newtown Hall, in a part of the Linton mansion that is now the back portion of Arcade Hall, and, lastly, in the Academy building. It was not until 1840 that the Church was really instituted. At that time the class record shows there were 34 persons enrolled as members. A Sunday School was in operation and regular services sustained.

The Rev. James Smith was presiding elder; Rev. Christopher J. Crouch, preacher-in-charge; Rev. R. K. Goentner, junior preacher; Rev. William Wetherill and Rev. James Merry being

local preachers, and James G. LaRue, secretary of the Quarterly Conference. In 1842, agitation was started to build their own house of worship, but it was not until 1846 that the first meeting house was actually commenced. The building was completed in the same year and the minutes show that Rev. Solomon Higgins was the presiding elder; Rev. James Hand, preacher-in-charge; and Rev. Alfred Cookman, junior preacher. In 1875, the Church was detached from the circuit and made a station or independent organization. Rev. William B. Wood was then presiding elder.

The first pastor in the new regime was Wesley C. Johnson. He found the Society at a low ebb both spiritually and financially. There were probably not over twenty active members at this time, all told. But a great and gracious revival, which put the church upon its feet, came in the early part of Mr. Johnson's pastorate when about forty persons were admitted to membership. The first movement toward the erection of a new church was begun in 1896, and the building was completed a few years later.

In 1843, the White Hall was opened as a Temperance Hotel, but nine years later received its first liquor license. This building stands on a lot which Squire Isaac Hicks bought from Sarah Robinson on January 2, 1796. There was a frame house on the property, in which the Squire lived until his death in 1836 in the 89th year of his age. After his death, his grandson, Dr. Edward H. Kennedy, bought the property, and built on the lot a good house, which he used as a private school. The old part where the Squire had his office was the bar room years later when it became a tavern. Following Kennedy's school, a store was kept on the premises by Wilson & Gibson.

During the Revolutionary War, Mr. Campbell, uncle of Nicholas Willard, kept a store in the little old part of the house, [i. e. that portion torn down in 1869]. It is learned from traditional history that at one time during the Revolution the buildings on this lot were occupied by the Quartermaster Department as a store house for military supplies. The Doans or their confederates made a raid on the place one very cold night, shot the watchman, and carried off a lot of the stores.

The following account of the beginning of the hotel is taken from the *Newtown Journal and Workingmen's Advocate* of Tuesday, June 27, 1843:

A sign bearing the inscription White Hall House was raised in front of the white mansion house, on Front Street, in our Borough, last Saturday afternoon. We understand that Samuel B. Willett, the proprietor, intends to keep a house for the purpose of receiving boarders, either



Photograph by W. E. Randall.

The First Home of the
NEWTOWN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Built in 1846

permanent or transient, and the accommodation of the traveling public. Mr. Willett has certainly gone to great expense in rendering his location a most beautiful establishment. It stands back a pleasant distance from the street with a handsome yard in front. Connected with this house will be found all the conveniences for a gentleman and family, if they wish to spend a few days or weeks in our borough. Mr. Willett has no Saratoga or Yellow springs, but it should be remembered that he keeps a good assortment of cooling and refreshing beverages and is located only one mile from the Dripping spring!

In about 1844, Evans kept a store in the White Hall House. In 1850, it was known as Hallowell's Hotel. In 1852, it was licensed to Daniel Yerkes Harman, son of John and Elizabeth (Addis) Harman, on the petition of about 100 residents of the borough and vicinity; and against the remonstrance of about half that number was relicensed the following year. For the next five years the license was refused by the Court. In 1858, a license was granted to Amos W. Buckman, who conducted the tavern until 1864. He was succeeded by Samuel Thatcher, and he in turn three years later by Mahlon S. Harding, who remained for two years and then sold out to James Wesley Hellings, who in less than a year sold the tavern to Samuel L. Ettenger. Ettenger owned the property for many years, and was the proprietor at three different periods during the next ten years; it being conducted in the intervals by Burtis Magill (1871), George W. Shinn, Mrs. Alice Shinn, and Frederick Schiefer.

From February, 1880, to May, 1891, the White Hall was managed by Edward A. Tomlinson, who was succeeded by Sipron C. Keith. In 1904, Keith made extensive improvements, practically renewing and remodeling the whole structure. In 1915, R. A. Nugent was the proprietor. The present owner, Alexander Chesner, further improved the property this year, 1934, by landscaping the front yard.

Since the year of incorporation of the Borough, there had been agitation among the freeholders to build a town hall. On August 15, 1838, the minutes of Council show:

John Tucker presented a petition signed by several of the inhabitants of the Borough, praying Council to provide a Town House, or some secured place for the confinement of vagrants.

On July 27, 1840, there was appointed a committee to look for a building site for the erection of a Town House, but it was not until 1854, however, that the present Chamber on North State Street was constructed. The following incident concerning its erection is taken from the *Newtown Enterprise* of September 10, 1898:

The building on North State Street, used as a council chamber and lock up, was built in 1854, and the German mason who put up the walls

was the first prisoner to be confined therein. His name is not now recalled. He lived over in Northampton near the White House, and one night he stole some freshly slaughtered hogs from the premises of the late Gerardus Wynkoop. He was tracked across the fields by the grease left on the top rails of the fence where he had rested his heavy loads. A search of the mason's premises was made and the pork was found in the cellar, covered up with cabbage leaves and dirt. Constable Enos Tomlinson, of Newtown, arrested the thieving mason and brought him to Newtown where he was confined in the new lock up pending his removal to the county jail. Conviction followed and the man served a term in the Eastern Penitentiary.

A kind of entertainment for rural neighborhoods in Bucks County came into vogue in the 1840's in the form of debating societies, held, generally, in school houses. In the south-central portion of the county, the main places for debate were Pineville, Dolington, and Newtown. This evidently was the forerunner of the Newtown Lyceum, which, in 1854, applied for permission to hold its meetings in Newtown Hall; Quoting from the minute book of the Trustees:

A flourishing literary association of the place, called the Newtown Lyceum, being anxious to have the use of the Hall for its meetings, it is resolved that the Newtown Lyceum have the use of the Hall gratis for their next meeting.

Mahlon B. Linton was appointed to confer with the President, Edward H. Worstall, to that effect. In 1859, quoting again from the Hall Trustee's minute book:

It was resolved that the Newtown Lyceum be permitted to have a door fee of a small sum, clear of any percentage though subject to the usual charge for the use of the Hall per night, viz: \$1.50.

From this date, 1859, the Lyceum seems to have gone by the name of Newtown Literary Society, and to have been held about every winter until 1882, when, on November 21st it adjourned *sini die*, and divided evenly the money in its treasury between Newtown Hall and Newtown Library.

Some of the debaters of those early days were Robert and William Tomlinson, Samuel George Martindale, Isaac H. Hillborn, George E. Huey, James B. Lambert, Oliver and Joseph Holcomb, and Harry Scott. George A. Jenks was one of the early Presidents, and Lillie Styer was secretary, and later editor of the Lyceum's paper, *The Star*, which had as its motto, "Count that day lost whose low descending sun views from thy hand no worthy action done."

In October, 1875, the Lyceum debated for two consecutive weeks on the question, "Resolved, that secular education lessens crime," with the following cast of debaters, in addition to those already named: W. W. Woodruff, county superintendent; J.

Pemberton Hutchinson, Rev. Abdiel Ramsey, of the Episcopal Church; Rev. G. C. Bush, of the Presbyterian Church; Rev. Johnson, of the Methodist Church; Capt. William Wynkoop, Hannah E. Holcomb, and Mrs. M. Amanda Heston. Cyrus T. Hillborn was at that time president, Ashbel W. Watson, vice-president, and Carrie Lukens and Helen R. Marshall, editors of *The Star*. Other features of the weekly programs were: Referred Questions, Readings and Recitations, Music, Mock Trials, Sentiments, etc.

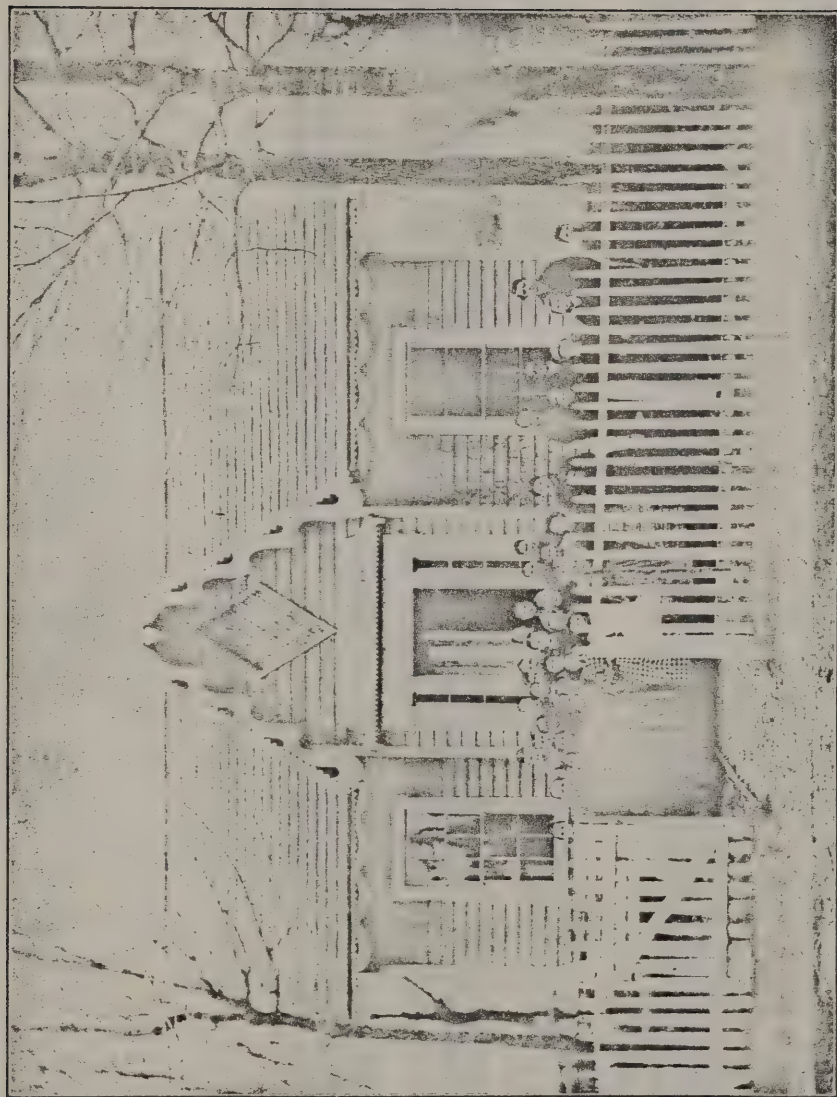
The Lyceum was discontinued for several years, but later revived for a short time near the end of the Century with some of the early debaters and some younger ones, including Harry A. Smith, Horace G. Reeder, Edwin McKinstry, Warren G. Roberts, and others.

From beginning to end, the Newtown Lyceum was a highly educational, democratic institution supplying at a nominal fee, five or ten cents, good wholesome entertainment and food for thought for many years. It drew large crowds to the old Hall and comfortably filled the new one which was erected in 1884.

In the 1850's there existed the Newtown Gas and Water Company, which furnished gas to a number of Newtown residences. The Company did not make any attempt to supply water, although chartered to do so. On October 5, 1858, the borough granted permission to the Company to lay pipes in the streets. The Gas Works was located on the ground now occupied by the Baptist Church. The hole for the gas tank was not filled up until some time after the Church was built in 1905.

The original charter provided for 2500 shares of stock. The Works was first operated by Robert Drake Cary. Members of the Company were: Robert D. Cary, Alfred Blaker, Charles Willard, Louis Buckman, Edward Buckman, and Silas Cary. There were between 70 and 75 consumers. Street lamps were provided as far south on State Street as the intersection with Court; and at the intersections of Court, Congress and Chancellor Streets with Penn Street, Centre and Washington Avenues. The lights were lit until 10:00 P. M. during the week, and later on Saturday nights.

Louis Buckman secured the controlling interest of the Company, and deeded the stock to his son, Edward Buckman, who became Secretary-Treasurer. In 1886, Edward Buckman completed arrangements with J. S. Cummings, of Philadelphia, for the purchase of the Works, and the papers were signed on September 6, 1886.



Photograph owned by Frank Sutton; taken March 20, 1868.

COTTAGE SCHOOL on Liberty-Street, Built in 1853

T. H. WYNKOOP POST, No. 427, G. A. R.

Front row, left to right—James Dillon, color bearer, Oliver Brooks, Richard Dafter, Palmer McMaster, J. Charles Burrill, George C. Worstell, Charles Trexler, John Creighton, William Wollery, Winfield S. Ellis,* Edward Delany, Joseph Stout, Charles Simmers, B. Frank Smith, Franklin Cornell; children: Morell Smith,† J. Aubrey Crewitt.†*

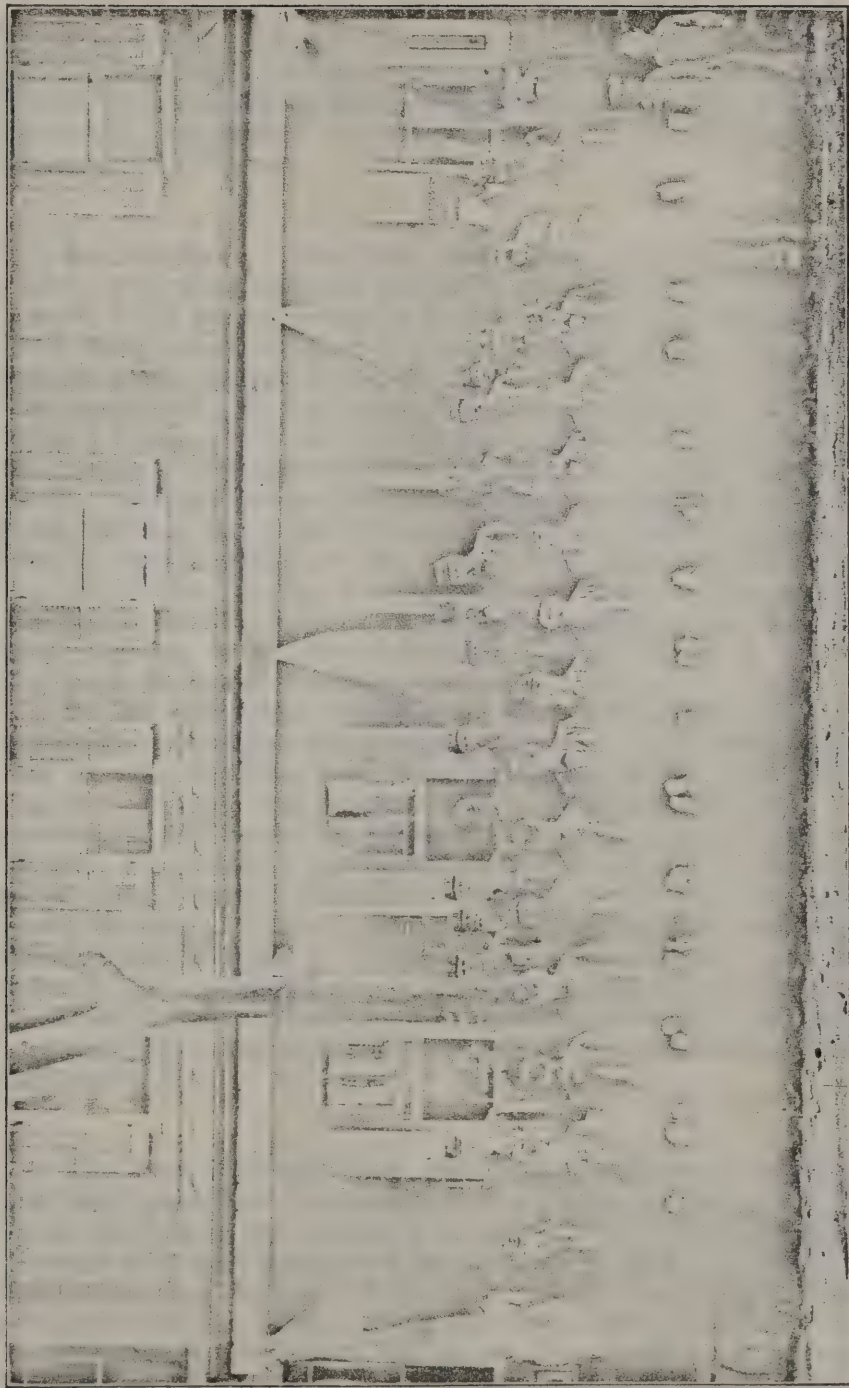
Back row, left to right—John Williams, Joseph Norton, Capt. William Wynkoop, Charles E. Pugh, Henry M. Pownall, Theodore Bennett, Charles Clark, Charles Craven, Capt. Thomas P. Chambers, James Craven, Isaac S. Wright, Elias Lowmes, Isaiah Hubbard, John Balderston, Thaddeus S. Kenderdine, John Duckworth, and William Carr.

In the rear of the group, directly under the sign of S. B. Willard, proprietor of the Temperance House, stands Thomas K. Gumpfer, Sr., who was not a Grand Army man.

*Only members alive in 1934.

†Children always delight in pageants, and it is only natural that two little lads, sons of neighbor physicians—Morell, son of Dr. Charles B. Smith, and J. Aubrey, son of Dr. J. Aubrey Crewitt—who were warm friends and playmates, should follow the parade and get in line when the photograph was taken. Morell holding the hand of Franklin Cornell. As fate would have it, both lads were actively

identified with the World War and served overseas. Aubrey returning with the Croix de Guerre for valorous action in France, narrowly escaping with his life a number of times, while Morell was blown to death while taking part in a particularly brave and hazardous undertaking, and about 10 years later his remains were located and brought back to Newtown for interment.



Photograph owned by Winfield S. Ellis; taken about 1896.

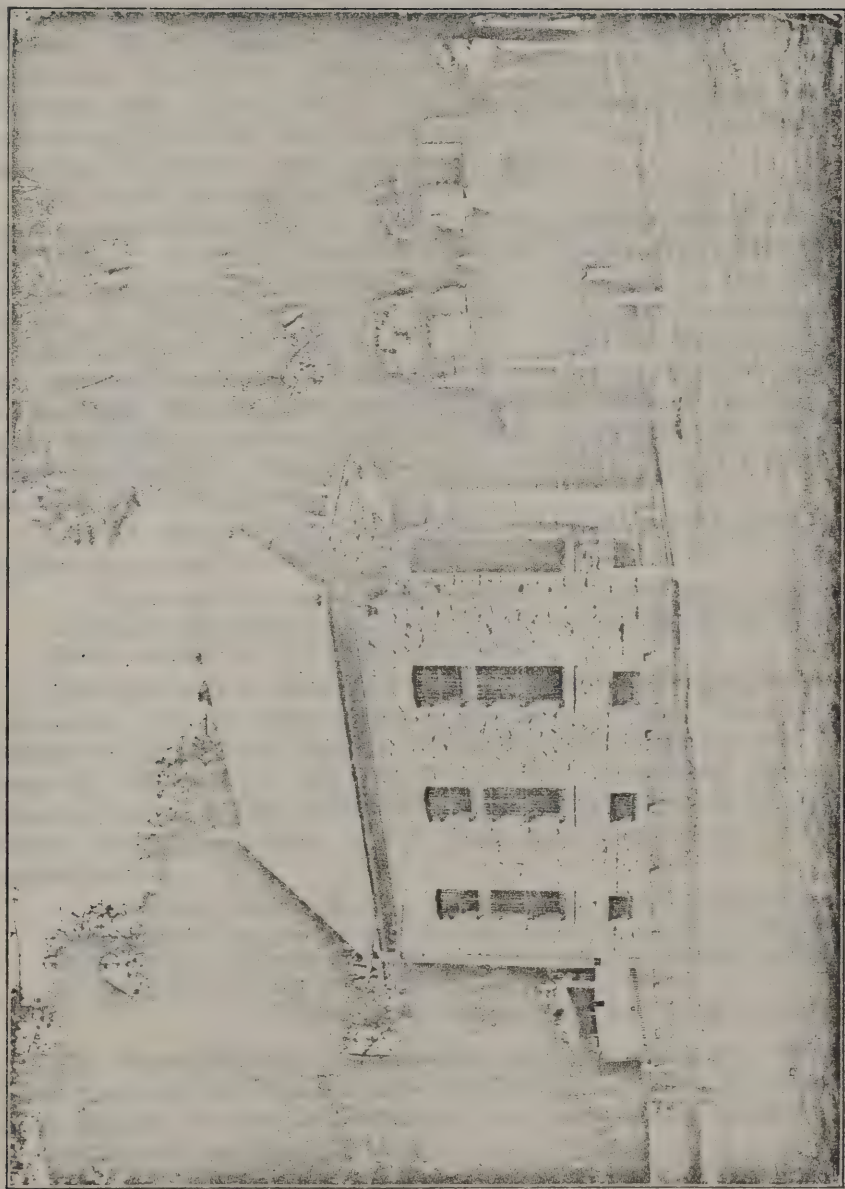
T. H. WYNKOOPE POST, No. 427, G. A. R.

The two-story frame house at No. 200 East Washington Avenue was the first house erected on this street east of Congress Street. It was built by Kinsey B. Tomlinson in 1861; and until her death this year, it was the residence of his daughter Mrs. Wilhelmina Compton.

The citizens of Newtown and vicinity took action immediately after Fort Sumpter was fired upon, April 12, 1861. Only a week later, on April 19th, a public meeting was held in Newtown Hall, presided over by John Barnsley, Esq., with Capt. Joseph Eyre, George A. Jenks, Esq., and Dr. M. P. Linton as vice-presidents. It was agreed to raise a company; David V. Feaster heading the roll, with 33 others following at the close of the meeting. A committee was appointed to secure additional names, and another committee of five from Newtown and five from Yardley was named to raise funds for equipment and support of the families of the volunteers. The members from Newtown were: George A. Jenks, Lewis Buckman, Benjamin B. Buckman, Dr. M. P. Linton, and David V. Feaster. The members from Yardley were: David Howell, Thomas Heed, A. S. Cadwallader, Joseph A. Vanhorn, and John F. Brown.

On the April 22nd following, a second meeting was held at the Hall, when \$1,250 was pledged, 44 more persons volunteered, and George A. Jenks was made treasurer of the fund raised. David V. Feaster was elected captain, Strickland Yardley, first lieutenant, and Joseph B. Roberts, second lieutenant. On June 10, 1861, the company was mustered in as Company C, 32nd Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, known as the Third Pennsylvania Reserves. Horatio G. Sickel, of Philadelphia, was made colonel, and William S. Thompson, of Bucks County, lieutenant colonel. The regiment served three years, and was mustered out on June 17, 1864. Their record reflected credit on both officers and men, but many valuable lives were lost on the field or in the hospitals.

The First National Bank and Trust Company of Newtown, the most important institution of the Borough, occupies a fine brick building at the northwest corner of State Street and Centre Avenue that was completed in November, 1928. In 1864, the formation of a National Bank in Newtown was regarded as a visionary scheme. Judge Jenks and many other prominent business men said, "Newtown has no use for a bank, and the stock will be good for nothing." However, Barclay J. Smith, of Buckmanville, who had removed to Newtown in that year, was very



Photograph by W. E. Randall before 1894.

The Third Home of the First National Bank, Built in 1884, Razed in 1928

active in obtaining stock subscriptions toward the institution of a new bank. He persevered in the interest of a few, and on March 5, 1864, 35 stockholders subscribed to a capital stock of \$50,000. The following officers were then elected, Kinsey B. Tomlinson, President, and Barclay J. Smith, Cashier; and the directors were, Kinsey B. Tomlinson, Joshua C. Blaker, Lewis Buckman, Jacob H. Taylor, Charles Twining, Alfred Blaker, Jonathan W. Gillam, and Samuel H. Hibbs.

The Bank commenced business in a room in the J. Wilson Croasdale building near the corner of State Street and Washington Avenue, where it remained for four years. This old office is now occupied by Riddle's confectionery store. The Bank bought, on March 31, 1868 from the Judge Jenks estate, the former County Office Building. It was fitted up for the Bank, and the business removed thereto in the spring of 1868, where it remained until its removal on March 31, 1884 to the brown-stone building that was razed in 1928 to make room for the present structure. The brown-stone building was erected by David C. Lee, of Yardley.

A brief article in the *Enterprise* of April 5, 1884, gives the following account of the building:

The interior has ample room, on the first floor, both for its employees and those transacting business, as well as the high ceiling to give ventilation, something the old building lacked.

The directors at this time were: Edward Atkinson, John L. Atkinson, John P. Agnew, Lewis Buckman, George W. Craven, Jonathan W. Gillam, Charles G. Knight, Niles Martin, and William H. Walker. In the small pamphlet *Newtown Past and Present*, issued in 1894, is found the following statement in regard to the financial standing of the bank just thirty years after its organization:

This being the only Bank in the place, does a good conservative business, with a fine deposit line of over \$300,000. It has a capital of \$100,000, and a surplus of the same amount and has averaged a dividend of (9%) nine per cent per annum.

E. ATKINSON, *President*, and S. C. CASE, *Cashier*.

An interesting and note-worthy fact in connection with the First National Bank is the long and faithful service of its President, Horace Benjamin Hogeland, who became an employee of the institution on June 25, 1878.

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HISTORIC NEWTOWN

Part VII

1865-1896

HISTORIC NEWTOWN

Part VII

NEWTOWN
1870

NEWTOWN
1870

Historic Newtown, Part VII, 1865-1896

Previous to 1864, the Catholics of south-central Bucks County were compelled by necessity to travel either to Trenton, Bristol, Lambertville, or Doylestown to attend Holy Mass. Through lack of conveyance, some were compelled to walk from 8 to 14 miles to the nearest Church. At the close of the Civil War, some parties interested in the welfare of Catholicism, induced Father McSwiggan, the Pastor of St. Mark's, Bristol, to try to organize the scattered Catholics of the district. Accordingly, he said Mass for them on a week day in April, 1864, in the house on Sycamore Street, later occupied by Horace H. Tranter. Shortly afterward, arrangements were made to have Mass once a month in the home of Nicholas McGowan, on North State Street.

The zealous pastors of Bristol fostered the little handful of Catholics, and urged them to try to obtain a suitable building for the house of God. After several unsuccessful attempts, Father Lynch secured the ground on Sycamore Street, where the present Church stands. This plot had been intended by the original purchasers as a site for the depot of the railroad projected from Philadelphia to Newtown. The original route of approach to the town was abandoned, and the lot was purchased for the sum of \$1,000 by Thomas A. Costigan and J. M. Sellers, who donated it to the church.

The construction of the Railroad, bringing many Catholic laborers to town, prompted urgent endeavors to accommodate them on Sundays. Plans were drawn by Mr. Durang, and operations were begun at once for a new church. The Catholics, aided by their non-Catholic friends, hauled the stone and building materials and dug the foundations, thus saving considerable expense. The stone was taken from the quarry of Lewis Buckman, who donated 50 perches of the same as his contribution; and the lumber was bought at Taylorsville. The corner-stone was laid on November 16, 1873 by the Very Rev. Ignatius Horstman, D.D., Chancellor, afterward Bishop of Cleveland, O. Dr. Horstman preached on the occasion, and placed the new congregation under the patronage of St. Andrew.

In the following spring, work was resumed and the basement made ready for the celebration of Mass. In July, 1874, Father Lynch said Mass for the first time, in the basement, and the little congregation enjoyed the happiness of assisting in a place suitable for the Holy Mysteries. The building was continued, and the roof finished by the end of 1874, but the interior was left uncompleted as they had come to the end of their resources. Father Lynch's failing health and subsequent death delayed mat-

ters until Father John J. Ward was appointed pastor of Bristol in 1879. Father Ward immediately began the finishing of the interior by using a purse of \$1,800 given him upon leaving the Cathedral Parish. He finished the building in the course of a year, and the church was dedicated on June 13, 1880 by Bishop Wood.

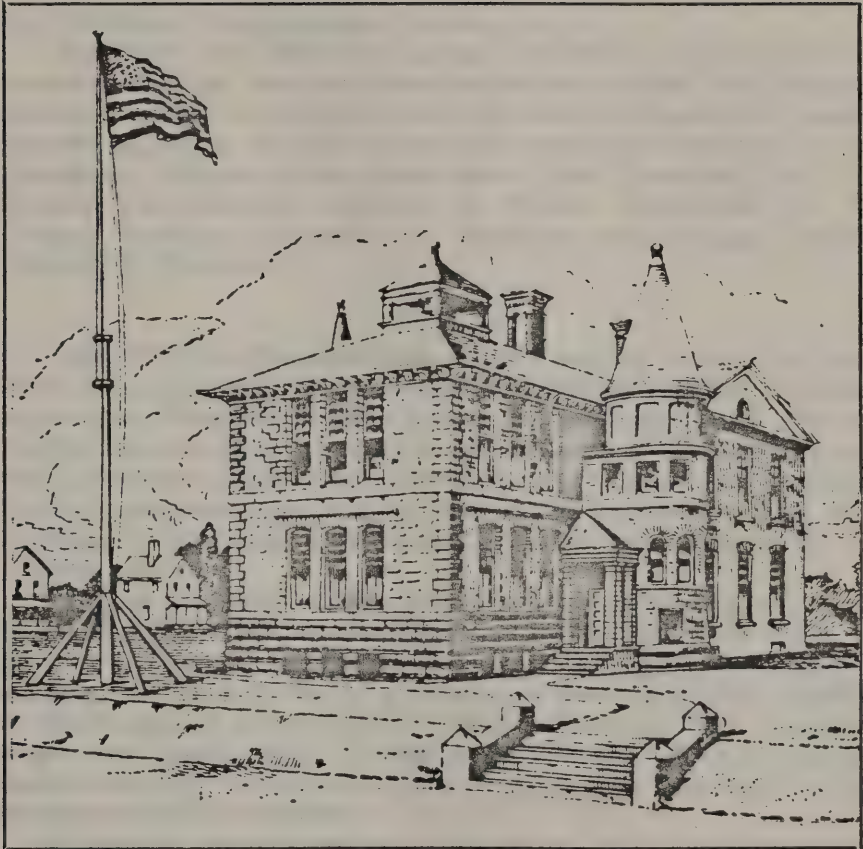
In August, 1880, Archbishop Wood, at the earnest solicitations of Father Ward, made Newtown a separate parish with Yardley and New Hope as Missions, and appointed a resident pastor in the person of the Rev. William Meagher. In January, 1883, Rev. James Regnery succeeded Father Meagher. Father Regnery built the rectory, quarrying the stone and laboring with his own hands in its construction. In September, 1897, the old portion of the Cemetery was consecrated by Bishop Prendergast, afterward Archbishop of Philadelphia. The new portion of the Cemetery was blessed by the same Bishop on May 24, 1908.

PASTORS OF ST. ANDREW'S R. C. CHURCH

Rev. William Meagher	1880—1883.
Rev. James Regnery	1883—1885.
Rev. Hugh McGovern	1885—1887.
Rev. J. F. McAnany	1887—1892.
Rev. M. Gormley	1892—1895.
Rev. P. F. Beresford	1895—1897.
Rev. B. J. Conway	1897—1898.
Rev. John F. Kiernan	1898—1898.
Rev. James McGinn	1898—1901.
Rev. John F. Kiernan	1901—1913.
Rev. Joseph V. Sweeney	1913—1919.
Rev. Michael J. McSorley.....	1919—1921.
Rev. John T. Brady	1921—

Triumph Lodge, No. 564, Independent Order of Good Templars, was organized at Newtown Hall, on March 28, 1868, with 25 charter members. The officers were: Thomas U. Baker, Jennie Buckman, Alfred Blaker, Jr., George C. Worstall, George Janney, Mary T. Trego, Euphrosyne S. Linton, Robert B. Stockton, Willett Lloyd, Ashbel W. Watson, Lettie W. Worstall, and Laura Rose.

After meeting for a time at private houses, a room was secured in Siloam Lodge Building, on South State Street, for a meeting place for one year, after which they took possession of two rooms in the second story of the Triumph Building, where the Lodge met weekly until it disbanded in 1890. During these 22 years, 525 members had taken the pledge never to make, buy, sell, or use as a beverage any spirituous or malt liquor, wine or



From Newtown, Past and Present, 1894.

NEWTOWN SCHOOL BUILDING

First Part Erected in 1872

cider, and also to discountenance in all proper ways the manufacture, sale, and use thereof. The Lodge owned stock in the new Triumph Building; and it carpeted and furnished its own rooms by conducting exercises and holding public entertainments, such as, Tableaux, Masquerades, Lectures, etc.

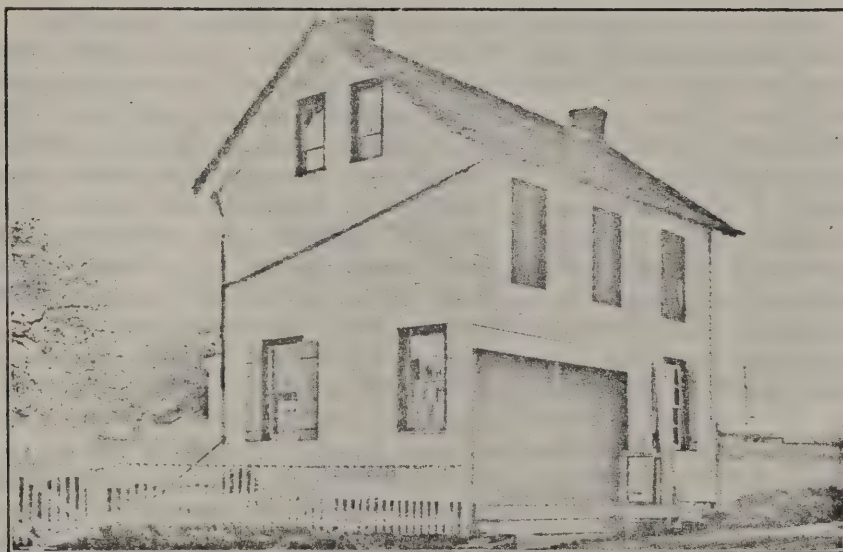
On April 30, 1890, the Lodge disbanded, surrendered its charter, and the trustees were authorized to sell the personal property of the organization and divide the amount of money remaining, after all bills were paid, pro rata among the few members. Officers at the close were: Chief Templar, Dr. H. A. Trego; Vice-Templar, Hannah A. White; Treasurer, W. W. Trego; Secretary, Elwood M. Watkins; and Lodge Deputy, Hannah E. Holcomb.

The Whittier Institute was another society formed in Newtown in about 1868. It held regular meetings in what was then known as Enterprise Hall, across the corridor from Clayton Keller's barber shop. It was purely literary in its features, and held a number of first class entertainments to assist in its upkeep. James Anderson was one of the early presidents, and Mrs. Cynthia S. Holcomb and Emma Mitchell were editors of the *Whittier Record*.

An old program of 1869, advertising an entertainment in the Exhibition Building, embraced music by the Leontine Band, an address by Isaac H. Hillborn, an essay by Mrs. M. Amanda Heston, an original poem by Dr. M. P. Linton, a reading by Mrs. Cynthia S. Holcomb, and a recitation by Sallie E. Bunting. Two dialogues were also given: "Only Young Man in Town," by seven young ladies and one young man, and "Popping the Question" by six members of the Institute.

A similar entertainment in November, 1870, had a recitation by Johanna Coleman, and another by Channing Eastburn, an essay by Mary B. Cook, and a tableau, "Scenes from Rose Beltane or the Bride of the Border," and a dialogue, "The Lost Necklace," by six members. The program says, "The Exhibition Building doors will open at 6 o'clock, and the entertainment will begin precisely at 7:00 P. M.; Admission 25 cents." Later in its history, the Whittier moved up a story in the same building, and its quarters were used as a reading room by the members.

In 1871, the Assembly of Pennsylvania chartered a State Bank at Newtown with a capital of \$50,000, with the privilege of increasing the same to \$200,000 as the business interests of the community warranted. The capital was subscribed, paid up in



Photograph in Bucks County Historical Society.

TOLL GATE HOUSE

*of the Wrightstown and Newtown Turnpike Road Company formerly
Located at the North End of Sycamore Street*

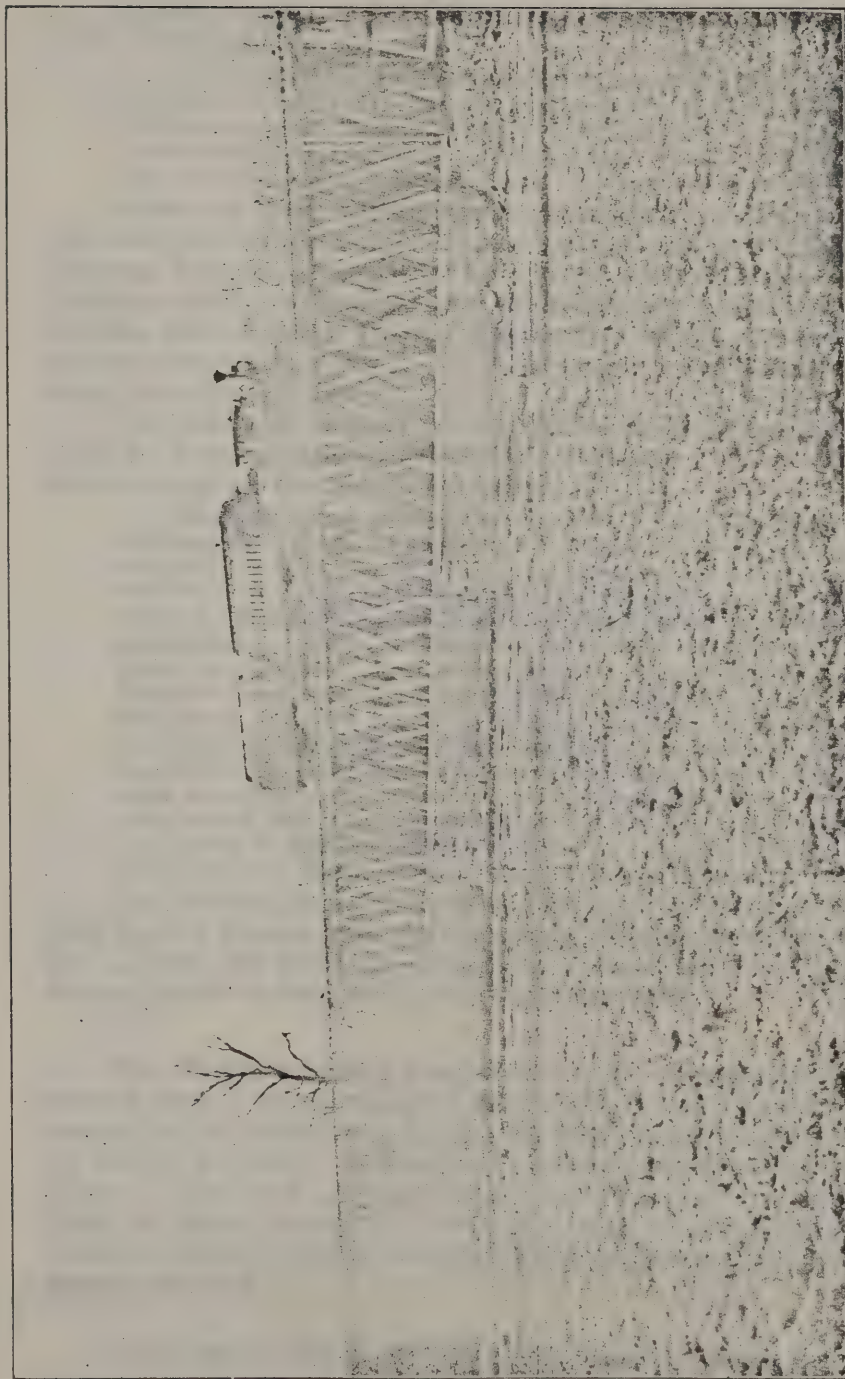
cash, and the new bank, known as the Newtown Banking Company, opened for business in November of that year in what was then called the Enterprise Building, [Keller Block]. Barclay J. Smith was president, and Benjamin Smith the cashier, and the directors were: George T. Merrick, Edward Smith, Ralph Smith, Daniel Tweedy, George A. Jenks, and Benjamin Smith. This State Bank flourished for a few years until it failed. At about the same period, S. Cary Ball operated a private bank in Newtown for a short time, but it also failed. This bank was known as the Newtown Loan and Trust Company.

Although a railroad was chartered to Newtown as early as 1836, it was never built. On April 2, 1860, another road, from Philadelphia to Newtown, was incorporated, but it was not until 1872 that the present Philadelphia, Newtown and New York Railroad Company was organized, with a capital of \$1,500,000 and authority to increase it to \$3,000,000. A liberal subscription to the stock was obtained at Newtown; General Horatio G. Sickel was president, and Charles Willard, treasurer. The directors were: Barclay J. Smith, Isaac Eyre, Alfred Blaker, and Isaac Hillborn; and their office was in what is now the Keller Building.

The great financial panic of September 18, 1873, convulsed the whole country, and since the bonds had not been signed according to promise by the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company, the work was obliged to stop for want of funds.

At the annual meeting of the Company held in Philadelphia on January 11, 1875, over three-fourths of the stock was represented. A change of officers was made which proved to be the board agreed upon by the former directors. On November 1, 1876, the Company was reorganized with a capital of \$1,200,000; William Painter, president; L. L. Bush, superintendent; and Barclay J. Smith, treasurer. The Road was opened as far out as Fox Chase in the same year, 1876, as the Bound Brook Division, in order to carry the Centennial visitors. Grading was commenced for the Newtown portion at Crescentville, below Fox Chase in 1872. Howard K. Hillborn worked with J. Pemberton Hutchinson, and Squire John Merrick, and others in surveying the road. The following extract is from Hillborn's Diary, dated June 8, 1872:

We stopped work at about half past nine o'clock, and the Captain told us that we need not do anything more, and we might go to the meeting which was held in the woods near Crescentville. There were about five hundred present (mostly from Newtown) at the moving of the first wheelbarrow load of dirt wheeled by General Sickel, loaded by General Davis, and grubbed by Barclay Smith. I went home with the Newtown Brass Band who were at the meeting.



Photograph by McKean, Newtown, 1878; original owned by E. R. B.

FIRST TRAIN ON NESHAMINY TRESTLE

Trestle Replaced by Steel Bridge and Embankment Following Fire in July 1904

On the September 14th following is the first mention of being near Newtown:

We started from Newtown about half past six o'clock, and walked to a farm owned by Mr. Camm in Northampton. We branched from the old line and ran by William Hibbs' buildings and near Mrs. Hutchinson's to the Neshaminy, and across a corner of Mrs. Worth's woods into Cyrus Van Artsdalen's field, making a line of very heavy work in every respect.

After this, there were a number of other lines surveyed, until the one decided upon, which came up through Worth's Woods, [George School], crossed the Langhorne pike, and ended at the Station, which was located near the old power plant now owned by the Philadelphia Electric Company. When the road was almost completed, a party of young people from Newtown rode in on a carload of ties.

The road was opened for inspection on Saturday, February 2, 1878. Concerning this event, Mrs. Alexander Chambers wrote in her diary on that date:

About 11 o'clock we went to the foot of Chancellor Street to the Railroad depot to see the train arrive. This is the grand opening of the railroad, and the Company gave a free excursion and a free lunch. The first train of twenty cars went down to Philadelphia this morning at about 8 o'clock, pretty well filled with people from Newtown and the neighborhood. About 12 o'clock ten cars came up filled with invited guests from the city. They at once formed a parade, and, headed by the Birdsboro band, marched to the Exhibition building, where the luncheon was served. About 1 o'clock ten more cars came up with those who had gone down in the morning. Then, headed by The Newtown Band, they marched to the Exhibition building for their lunch. After that, anyone could have lunch who wanted it. It is thought that about 1200 people were served; and plenty of provisions left. It was nearly all given by the citizens of Newtown and the surrounding country. Between 3 and 4 o'clock the cars laden with passengers returned to the city.

The Philadelphia terminus was at that time located at 32nd and Market Streets. On the following Monday morning, February 4, 1878, the road was regularly opened for business. The Pennsylvania operated this railroad until 1880.

The '76-Club, named from the year of its organization, was started with a membership of about 50. It flourished for three years; the president being Ashbel W. Watson, who was succeeded by Harry A. Smith. It conducted a spicy paper called *The '76 Record*. The Club soon afterward passed out of existence, and, from its ashes sprang the Phoenix Circle, a somewhat smaller Literary society, with a few of the old members of the '76, and some new ones.

From 1881 to 1883, another literary society called the Philemon was in existence in Newtown. Membership numbered about

25, including some from Yardley, Edgewood, and Langhorne. Also it conducted a paper called the *Philemon Journal*. Edward Palmer was president for a time, and he was followed by Edward P. Hicks.

In the early Fall of 1882, a group of people met at the home of Thaddeus S. Kenderdine to consider forming a literary circle, and later, at Dr. George T. Heston's, such a society was organized under the name of The Fireside Literary Society. This was truly a home circle, in some cases whole families being members. Its first executive board was: Mrs. Hannah Smith, Mrs. Hannah Briggs, and Mrs. Elizabeth Kenderdine. J. Taylor Briggs was its first president. Ruth B. Kenderdine was the last secretary. It lived for seven active and successful years, an association of considerable social benefit to the town.

Telephone communication between Newtown and Doylestown was opened on July 20, 1887. The Newtown office was in the grocery store and post office of Cyrus T. Hillborn. This store is now conducted by Calvin Tomlinson.

Newtown Chautauqua, Literary and Scientific Circle was organized in 1887, and four years later was still in a very prosperous condition, holding meetings every two weeks. At a meeting at Thaddeus S. Kenderdine's in that year, Sadie Tomlinson was elected president, Mabel W. Hibbs, vice-president; Lillie H. Barnsley, secretary and treasurer; Helen A. Parry, assistant secretary; and Hannah E. Holcomb, critic. Ida L. Harvey, Sadie Hibbs, and Ruth B. Kenderdine were appointed on the executive committee.

The first recorded meeting of persons interested in supplying artesian water to Newtown was held on February 20, 1888, and was presided over by George Cunningham Worstall. Seven persons agreed to subscribe \$50 each toward having a test well drilled by James L. Downy, of Beaver Falls, Pa., on their lot on North Lincoln Avenue recently purchased from Cyrus T. Hillborn.

On July 3, 1888, the Company was incorporated under the name of The Newtown Artesian Water Company, with a capital stock of \$20,000. On the following day, the trial well was tested,

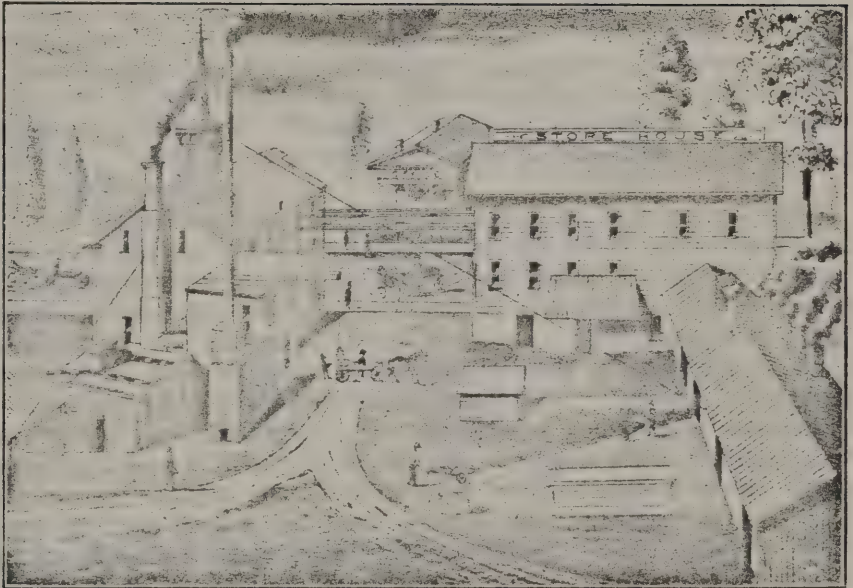
and found to be very satisfactory. During the summer of 1888, the pumping station and reservoir were constructed and the water mains laid. The organizing officers were: George C. Worstall, president; Thaddeus S. Kenderdine, vice-president; Capt. William Wynkoop, treasurer; and Paul Blaker, secretary. Worstall held office for 42 years, until his death on May 18, 1930. Kenderdine also held office until his death on February 17, 1922, and his son Louis R. Kenderdine was superintendent for 25 years, until succeeded by his son, Louis, Jr.

In 1912 the capital was increased to \$35,000, and in 1925, was raised again to \$42,000. Since the drilling of the original 8-inch trial well, the Company has found it necessary to bore in addition four 6-inch wells to meet the increased demand for service.

The Electric Light and Power Company was organized about 1890 and the work begun in 1893. Ground was purchased from the Worstall brothers, on South Lincoln Avenue, opposite the old Railroad Station. Here a plant was erected, and light and power furnished to the public. Electricity was supplied to the Trolley Company to run cars from Newtown to the "Cut-Off" Railroad at Langhorne, and also furnished to George School, until their present plant was installed in 1903.

The first officers of the Company were: Ashbel W. Watson, president; Paul Blaker, treasurer; and George C. Worstall, secretary. The directors of the Company were: Ashbel W. Watson, George C. Worstall, Thaddeus S. Kenderdine, Edward H. Buckman, William M. Watson, and Paul Blaker. The stock was sold at a loss to the Philadelphia Electric Company, and power was later made at their Yardley station, and then transformed at the old Newtown plant.

The New Century Club was organized in November, 1895, at the home of Mrs. Lavinia W. Blackfan. Its object is education, moral development, civic improvement, and philanthropy in general. Mrs. Anna M. Maris was the Club's first president; Mrs. Ellen Batten, secretary; and Mrs. Josephine B. Smith, treasurer. Meeting semi-monthly for a time at the homes of members, it finally secured the second story of the Enterprise Building, where it held its meetings for six years. Then for five years, the headquarters were in Tomlinson's Hall, at the southwest corner of Washington Avenue and State Street. Next, it became the guest of Mrs. M. Amanda Heston, where for 14 years it enjoyed all the comforts and privileges of her beautiful home. In 1920, Mr. and Mrs. Edward S. Hutchinson deeded to the Club, as a free memo-



Lithograph in Scott's *Atlas of Bucks County*, 1876.

THE NEWTOWN AGRICULTURAL WORKS

*Bird's-Eye-View Looking East, Showing the Council Chamber and
Greene Street in the Background*

rial gift, the ancient Newtown Academy building for their permanent headquarters. Ownership of this building, however, proved to be too great a financial burden, so a few years ago the Club sold the property, after having received permission to do so from the Hutchinson family, to the First National Bank and Trust Company, which is the present owner thereof.

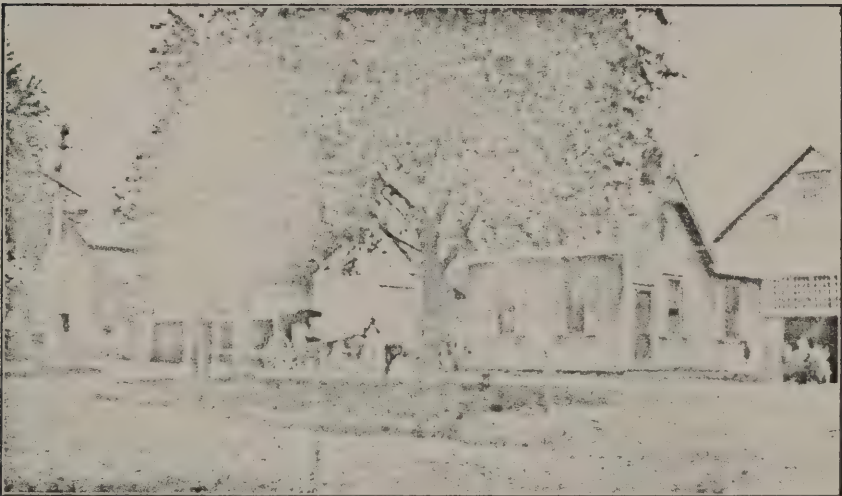
The Newtown Electric Street Railway Company was chartered on December 17, 1896, with a capital stock of \$100,000, and the line was formally opened on the December 21st of the following year. The officers of the Company were: Capt. Thomas P. Chambers, president; Alexander Chambers, treasurer; and George C. Worstall, secretary. The directors were: Edward H. Buckman, George C. Worstall, William S. Wright, Alexander Chambers, Ashbel W. Watson, George C. Blackfan, and Thaddeus S. Kenderdine.

The formal opening was a gala day for Newtown. Invitations were issued for a free ride over the road, and afterward a luncheon for the invited guests was served at the office of Capt. Chambers on State Street. The site of the trolley office is now occupied by the garage of John P. Coupe. The first ticket sold is owned by Mrs. William S. Wright, widow of the purchaser.

In May, 1899, tracks were laid under the "Cut-Off" bridge of the Pennsylvania Railroad. On the 12th of that month a railroad wrecking crew of 200 men came up, and just after the mail car had passed under the bridge and was standing there, they dropped their hooks and took up the rails, letting the car down on the ground. That night the Newtown Fire Company, with several of the townsmen, took their engine down, and while the workmen relaid the track, the firemen drenched the train crew, but they in turn cut the hose with their picks.

The Railroad served an injunction on the Trolley Company, delaying the work. All that summer, the trolley passengers had to walk several hundred yards under the stone arches of the railroad right-of-way, to make their connections. The case was taken to a higher court where it was settled in favor of the trolley company, and that fall on October 21, 1899, the track was relaid, and there was a complete line again between Newtown and Bristol. The Newtown Company acquired by lease and later by purchase the Langhorne & Bristol Street Railway, which was controlled at first by William Parry, and others, from Langhorne.

At that time, a power plant was constructed on South Lincoln Avenue, Newtown, which was the first large one to be made by the General Electric Company for a suburban trolley. This road proving a success, Capt. Chambers started to continue it



Photograph by W. M. Watson about 1900.

Buildings of the
A. W. & W. M. WATSON COMPANY

to Doylestown, and on June 13, 1898, secured a charter to that place. The formal opening to Doylestown was celebrated on February 26, 1900. The road was sold to Battle, High, and Harrison in 1907, and was later held by Sydney Wright. In about 1903, a company took out a charter for a trolley road between Newtown and Yardley; George C. Worstall was president, and Horace G. Reeder, Secretary.



